THE NEW
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TAYYIP ERDOGAN WINS HISTORIC TÜRKIYE RUN-OFF PREZ ELECTION

The authoritarian president extended his rule into a third decade, beating his secular rival Kemal Kilicdaroglu by four percentage points

BEATS SECULAR RIVAL BY 4 PERCENTAGE POINTS

With 99% of ballot boxes opened, unofficial results from competing news agencies showed Erdogan with 52% of the vote, compared with 48% for his challenger. Erdogen ridiculed his rival for the loss, saying 'bye bye bye, Kemal'. Talking to his supporters, he promised to work hard for Turkiye's second century. The country marks its centennial this year

TOUGHEST CHALLENGE FOR TURKISH LEADER

- With annual inflation rate touching 85% last year and Turks reeling from impact on a devastating earthquake in February, Erdogan faced the toughest challenges to his two-deacde hold on power
- With Türkiye at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, and it being a crucial NATO member, the election was closely watched | P9

85%

WAS THE VOTER TURNOUT IN SUNDAY'S RUNOFF ELECTION

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

PM opens new Parliament, Oppn absent

PM inaugurates new building, says it reflects the aspiration of new India; 20 Oppn parties, including the Congress, boycott the event

Prime Minister Narendra Modi installs 'Sengol' at the new Parliament building | PIB

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AMID boycott by around 20 opposition parties, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated the new Parliament building at a grand ceremony that included a havan, multi-faith prayers and the installation of the Sengol in a special enclosure in the Lok Sabha chamber.

Delivering his maiden speech from the new House, Modi said the new Parliament building marks the dawn of a self-reliant and developed India, which will also inspire the progress of other nations.

"Every decision taken here will lay the foundation of India's glorious future... the way to empower the poor, Dalits, backwards, tribals, divyangs and other marginalised sections goes through here," he said, adding "each brick and wall of this Parliament building should be dedicated to the welfare of the poor".

On the Opposition's criticism of the government's decision to construct the new building, Modi said it was becoming difficult for everyone to do their work in the old building due to various technological and space constraints. Also, the PM said the number of MPs is likely to increase in the coming years. They will have to be accommodated.

64,500 sq metres

The new Parliament building, built by Tata Projects, has a built-up area of 64,500 sq metres. Inside it, there is a grand Constitution Hall to showcase India's democratic heritage, a lounge for MPs and a library to list a few of the amenities

"The new Parliament is a reflection of aspirations and dreams of 140 crore Indians. This is a temple of our democracy that gives a message of India's resolve to the world. There are a few moments in every nation's history that are immortalised. Some dates become the indelible signature on the face of time. May 28, 2023 is one such day," the PM added.

About 25 parties attended the event while 20 Opposition parties boycotted it, accusing the PM of 'sidelining' President Droupadi Murmu, a charge vehemently rejected by the government.

The Congress alleged the new Parliament was inaugurated in a grand fashion by a "self-glorifying authoritarian PM with utter disdain for Parliamentary procedures". Democracy does not run from the buildings but through the voices of the people, Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge said.

The Rashtriya Janata Dal was most stinging in its criticism of the project as it likened the new Parliament building's triangular shape to a coffin, drawing a sharp response from the BJP.

Parliament is the voice of the people! The prime minister is treating the inauguration of the Parliament House as coronation

Rahul Gandhi, Congress leader

There is a huge difference between Jawaharlal Nehru talking about the concept of modern India and rituals performed at the new Parliament building today

Sharad Pawar, NCP leader

What's the need for the new Parliament if it can't give justice to Wrestlers who are protesting? It is unfortunate that few have been detained

Siddaramaiah, Karnataka CM

It would be appropriate that this new building is used in the interest of the country and its people as per the humanitarian thoughts of Dr Ambedkar

Mayawati, BSP leader

Wrestlers detained, forcibly removed from Jantar Mantar

FIROZ MIRZA & UJWAL JALALI @ Chennai/New Delhi

THE scenes and their shrill cries sent shock wave across the sporting world. Olympic and world medallists were dragged and detained by Delhi police just a few kilometres away from where Prime Minister Narendra Modi was inaugurating the new Parliament building on Sunday.

Country's top wrestlers including Tokyo Olympic bronze medallist Bajrang Punia, Rio Olympic bronze medallist Sakshi Malik and two-time World Championships medallist Vinesh Phogat were trying to march towards the Parliament to organise 'Mahila Samman Mahapanchayat' when they were stopped midway and forcibly taken to separate locations from Jantar Mantar.

They breached the security cordon while trying to move towards the new Parliament and even had argued with Delhi police. Top official sources told this newspaper that the Delhi police will initiate legal action against the wrestlers. Late on Sunday, it is learnt that the police has apparently registered FIR under various sections of IPC and PDPP Act. The police also uprooted their tents and removed their belongings from the site where they were staying since April 23 demanding the arrest of the sidelined Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. While the move was apparently aimed at ending the ongoing sit-in protest, the wrestlers insisted via social media posts that the protest will continue.

Incidentally, Sakshi, her husband Satyawart Kadian and a few others met Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday demanding Brij Bhushan's arrest. Independent MLA from Charkhi Dadri, Sombir Sangwan, acted was the mediator. "We prepared a seven-point demand letter. But wrestlers demanded the immediate arrest of Brij Bhushan even as the HM told them that he will be arrested once police file the chargesheet in court as per law," Sangwan told this daily on Sunday evening. PTI

Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik (above) and World championships medallist Vinesh Phogat (left) forcibly removed | PTI / PARVEEN NEGI

RAIN INTERRUPTION

The IPL final between Chennai Super Kings and Gujarat Titans was called off at Ahmedabad on Sunday. The game has been moved to reserve day on Monday. If there is no completed match, then Gujarat will win as they topped the league phase. Weather forecasts predict more rain on Monday evening | PTI

33 militants killed in Manipur, Shah to begin 3-day visit today

CM seeks support for troops

Chief Minister Biren Singh said there had been cases of armed militants firing at civilians with AK-47s, M-16 and sniper rifles. The chief minister said efforts were underway to track down all the militants and urged the public to support the security forces

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

HOURS before Union Home Minister Amit Shah was to land in Manipur, five people were killed as violence continued in the restive state on Sunday. Incidents of gunfire and arson were reported from four districts of the state.

At least 33 armed militants were killed by security forces over the past four days in separate operations, authorities said. Three civilians and a policeman were killed in Sugnu in Kakching district and another civilian was killed in Phayeng in Imphal West district.

Imphal East and areas on the border of Bishnupur and Churachandpur districts also remained tense with sporadic incidents of violence.

At Uripok in Imphal West, a mob ransacked the house of BJP MLA Khwairakpam Raghumani Singh and torched two vehicles.

Sunday's violence comes as Army Chief General Manoj Pandey arrived in the state to chalk out strategies to restore peace. Chief Minister N Biren Singh briefed him about the situation on Sunday.

"We are trying to find out the culprits, those militants who are attacking civilians. Around 33 militants have been killed," Singh later told journalists.

A senior official, however, said at least 40 were killed till Sunday evening.

Singh said the spurt in attacks on civilian houses appeared well-planned "to show their strength" at a time when Union minister of state for home Nityanand Rai is in Manipur to take stock of the situation ahead of Shah's visit.

EXPRESS READ

Upper caste men rape 70-yr-old Dalit woman

Tumakuru: A 70-year-old Dalit woman was allegedly raped by two caste-Hindu men at Shettigehalli in Kunigal taluk a week ago during her granddaughter's wedding | P3

Polluted water: 2 more fall ill in Raichur dist

Raichur: Three days after a three-year-old boy died after consuming contaminated drinking water at Rekalmardi, Devadurga taluk, Raichur district, two more persons fell ill on Sunday | P4

Fleeing from cops, RTI activist dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Davanagere

A Right to Information (RTI) activist jumped from a bridge and died while trying to escape from the police at Tolahunase village on the outskirts of Davangere city early on Sunday. The deceased Harish Halli (40) was being taken by the police for an investigation when the incident occurred around 2.30 am.

SP Dr Arun K told *TNIE* that Harish was picked up from his wife's village Kakanuru in Channagiri taluk by Gandhinagar police. As the team was bringing Harish to Davanagere, he jumped out as the jeep was crossing the bridge. When the police tried to catch him, he jumped down the bridge and suffered critical injuries. "He was immediately shifted to a private superspeciality hospital, where he died," he said.

Harish from Kabbala village of Channagiri taluk was quite well known as an RTI activist. He had been detained in a cheating case filed by Babu Rao of Kanive Bilachi village on May 27. Babu Rao had alleged that Harish had registered a site in his name by producing fake documents.

Soon after the news of his death spread, his family alleged that he had been murdered by the police, and protested in front of the hospital.

Harish's wife KR Latha filed a complaint against Sub-Inspector Gandhinagara Krishnappa, Constables Devaraja and jeep driver Irshad. Davangere Rural police registered an FIR.

The SP visited the spot and conducted the initial investigation.

Latha and the people in Davanagere requested a CID inquiry, while the SP too has sent a request to the government.

The SP said a CID team is likely to arrive in Davanagere for the investigation on Monday and an impartial probe will be conducted.

KRS level dips to 80.26 ft, but no drinking water crisis

KARTHIK K K @Mysuru

CALL it due to the searing summer heat or delay in pre-monsoon rain in the Cauvery catchment areas, the water level at Krishna Raja Sagar dam in Mandya has plummeted and stood at 80.26 ft on Sunday.

While officials said there will be no shortage of drinking water for Bengaluru and Mysuru, the reservoir is just 6 ft away from the dead storage level of 74.76 ft.

The reservoir had 104.96 ft of water on the same day last year. Because of the delay in arrival of rain, high evaporation rate and discharge to canals, the reservoir level has dipped.

Trying to allay any fears of water shortage, KRS officials said there is a forecast of a good monsoon this year and once the rainy season starts, the dam will see an increase in inflows.

Officials said that over the last few years, the Cauvery basin has been receiving bounteous rain, resulting in heavy inflows into the dam. But the situation is little different this year, but there will not be a shortage of drinking water.

A woman grazes her cattle in the backwaters of Krishnaraja Sagar reservoir, where the water level has dipped, in Mandya district on Sunday | UDAYASHANKAR S

KRS full reservoir level	124.8 ft
Water level on May 28	80.26 ft
Water level (May 28, 2022)	104.96 ft
Inflow	413 cusecs
Outflow	2,997 cusecs

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 29/05/2023 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Uttharayana
Ritu: Grishma • Masa: Jyeshta • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Navami 8.30 am
Nakshatra: Uttharaphalguni 1.41 am • Moon in Kanya Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 22°C | MAX 33°C
FORECAST
Showers late. Cloudy
Sunrise 5.52 am
Sunset 6.41 pm
Moonrise 1.42 pm
Moonset 1.31 am

EGG PRICES SCRAMBLE, TOAST CONSUMERS

High temperatures lead to dip in production; large quantities sourced from Tamil Nadu

NAMRATA SINDWANI
@ Bengaluru

AVG EGG PRICE IN THE MARKET

NECC egg price - ₹5.25
Wholesale price - ₹5.25
Retail price - ₹5.57- 7
Supermarket Value - ₹5.66

₹5.3 egg rate in B'luru on Sunday

IT is not just humans who are under heat stress, but even hens. The rising mercury level has had a direct effect on your plate and pocket as the production of eggs has dipped, increasing their price.

During summer months in Karnataka, especially April and May, chickens experience heat stress which directly affects their ability to produce eggs, say poultry farmers. The poultry birds do not have the ability to sweat, making it difficult for them to lose body heat as feathers cover their body.

Studies have shown that chickens reduce their food intake and increase water consumption during summer months resulting in production of low-quality eggs with reduced weight and poor egg shell quality. High temperatures create behavioural, physiological and immunological issues affecting the production of quality eggs, say farmers and experts. According to the Karnataka Poultry Farmers and Breeders Association (KPFBA), the production of eggs has come down to 1.6 crore per day in May from 1.8 crore in April because of high temperatures.

Shyam Sundar, owner of Sanjay Farm Products in Bengaluru, said that though reduced production of eggs is an annual phenomenon, this year it is slightly higher than usual. "Generally, I sell 4.25 lakh eggs daily which was reduced to four lakh eggs due to heat stress." Sundar said that small suppliers bear the brunt the most. But low egg production is a temporary phenomenon as the upcoming rainy season takes egg production to its highest level. He sees an average daily sale of 4.75 lakh eggs during the rainy season.

MSR Prasad, KPFBA member and National Egg Coordination Committee chairman (NECC), told The New Indian Express that this year, there has been an average price rise of 40 paise per egg in the state, including Bengaluru, as compared to 2022. This is because of the dip in production. To meet the demand in Bengaluru, eggs are being sourced from different parts of Karnataka and also in large quantities from Tamil Nadu.

Prasad said high demand and the recent disruption in supplies from Tamil Nadu has led to prices of eggs going up in the city. Now, the average cost of an egg is Rs 5.25 in Bengaluru and Rs 4.3 across Karnataka which is 40 paise higher than the prices last year during April-May.

Former athlete Reeth Abraham and others hold placards in support of the protesting wrestlers, at Freedom Park on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Sports lovers, former athletes lend support to protesting wrestlers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

SEVERAL activists and athletes came together in Freedom Park on Sunday to express their solidarity with wrestlers who have been fighting against alleged sexual harassment by Brij Bhushan, MP and president of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) for nearly a month at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi.

The group demanded that there should be immediate action by the Union Government to arrest Brij Bhushan and the inquiry report should be made public.

Swimmer and Arjuna Award winner Nisha Millet said, "The women who are protesting are India's pride and no sportsperson or woman should have to go through this. Sports is no place for such things and perpetrators should be booked."

Star athlete Reeth Abraham said that the protesting wrestlers brought glory to the country and that every Indian should come out and support them.

Author-historian Ramchandra Guha condemned the police action. "Other sportspersons should come out in solidarity with these women. It is not just about one particular sport," he said, adding that people should admire their courage and valour to not resort to violence despite the brutality. He added that the government, instead of protecting the athletes, is protecting the perpetrators. "It has dismantled and arrested the athletes with arrogance and its MPs are left scot-free," Guha said.

Wildlife activist and former sports editor Joseph Hoover said, "We need a law or ordinance to set up Visakha committees in sports federations to look into complaints against sexual harassment.

SIDDU DEMANDS RELEASE OF WRESTLERS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has demanded that the Union Government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi take steps to released the wrestlers detained by the Delhi police. "What's the need for the new Parliament building if it can't give justice to the wrestlers who are protesting? It is unfortunate to know that few wrestlers have been detained for demanding justice. We as humans and Indians should stand with them & voice their concerns. They had made Indians proud by winning medals for us and we should make them feel proud to be Indians!!" he tweeted. "On one side, Narendra Modi governement has inaugurated new Parliament building and celebrating it as democracy festival, just a few yards away from there, women wrestlers who are protesting are getting silenced... They are trying to silence their rights" he said.

SWDs: Fresh markings for demolition, residents fume

MOHAMMED YACOOB
@ Bengaluru

RESIDENTS of Hoysala Nagar in KR Puram are spending sleepless nights after the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) deployed land surveyors to identify fresh properties for demolition for being built on stormwater drains (SWDs).

The BBMP had last week demolished a furniture godown and compound walls of a few houses. While a few residents complain that this would result in the demolition of a major portion of their houses, Palike engineers said that their actions are based on reports by land surveyors and the stormwater drains department.

Girish Bhat, who owns a house on a 40x60 site built 12 years ago, said he will lose at least 3 of the 14 pillars of his two-storeyed building if the BBMP goes ahead with its demolition drive. "I have to ask my four tenants to vacate. I am also looking to move into a rented property," Bhat said. Vinay Kumar, Assistant Executive Engineer, KR Puram, BBMP, said, "We have to follow what land surveyors and stormwater department engineers say. We only provide the manpower needed and the machinery and coordinate with police in case there is any untoward incident."

Basavaraj Kabade, Chief Engineer, SWDs, BBMP, said that there is no foul play and everything is being done based on old village maps dating back to 1950s and 1960s. "Since the drive was halted a few months ago, some owners might have erased the markings and hence, land surveyors have been asked to take up the task of marking the properties again," Kabade added.

According to BBMP, 35 buildings have been built on rajakaluves in Hoysala Nagar and the demolition drive will intensify from Monday.

Roof leaks after Sunday rain at new Whitefield Kadugodi Metro station

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A sharp spell of rain for 20 minutes on Sunday evening ensured water all over the Whitefield Kadugodi Metro terminal station. This was the same station from where Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Kadugodi-KR Pura Metro line on March 25 this year.

The group 'Whitefield Rising' tweeted video and pictures of different parts of the station with water due to the rain.

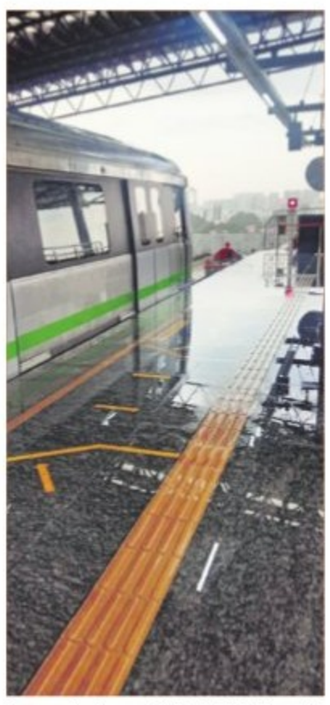
A volunteer of the group who was on board a train that terminated here and shot the video told *The New Indian Express*, "I boarded my train at Nallurhalli around 5.35 pm. It soon started raining heavily. When I reached Whitefield Kadugodi by 5.43 pm I saw a woman mopping the platform floor and then I realised rain had entered the station. As I walked through the station, rain drops were falling from the roof above too. So passengers getting off the train had to negotiate a wet platform, a slippery staircase and exit the station," he said.

Pointing out that it was a brand new station inaugurated only in March, the organisation wanted to know when Metro will be able to put in place 'rain proof buildings'.

There was much discussion among residents in Whitefield as to what could be in store here during the upcoming monsoon months, the volunteer added.

A private weather forecaster, Adarsh Gowda, said that 27.5 mm (2.7 cm) of rain was recorded in Kadugodi for 20 minutes. "A rain cloud had formed and it gave way offering a quick spell of rain in this area alone. We cannot call it heavy rain unless it touches at least 50 mm of rain. The surrounding areas received less rain but there was a sudden downpour at Kadugodi alone. For instance, Varthur received somewhere around 6 mm rain."

No one at Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) responded to this reporter's queries in connection with the station leaks.



A wet platform at Whitefield Kadugodi Metro station on Sunday

FLUID MOVES

Artistes perform at a dance event 'Rasamaya Kurukshetra- An emotional rollercoaster: A choreography of Natacharya', at Sevasadana in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

DUAL ROLE

Autorickshaws more than happy to share the load

PURAN CHOUDHARY
@ Bengaluru

A new study has shown that autorickshaws can play a dual role in the transport ecosystem. World Resource Institute (WRI) in its 'Assessing the Viability of Using Autorickshaws for Urban Freight Delivery in India' said that if autos are used for both freight and passenger transport, they can increase the revenue of autorickshaw drivers by an average of 15% and also mitigate carbon emissions. When *TNIE* spoke to auto drivers in the city, they were happy to be onboard with the dual functionality of delivering packages as well passenger transport. According to Karnataka Transport Division, there are 2,19,414 three-wheelers in Bengaluru Urban as on May 2020.

The research highlighted that in India, daily commercial deliveries are expected to grow 40% annually by 2025 and a system for handling loads of different sizes will be needed to meet rising urban demand. "Currently there is no vehicle category for transporting goods between 30 and 350 kg," the report read. The study suggested that autos can fill this gap and can have a positive impact on driver incomes, safety, and the environment.

Mohammad Mubarak who has been driving auto for almost two decades said, "I drive almost 100 to 150 km each day. If the government allows such a facility, it will benefit us and most of the auto drivers will be willing to do it." He also explained that currently if two boxes are found in the rickshaw, the traffic police places a fine of Rs 500.

Another auto driver, Adil Pasha said "We have no shame in doing honest work. If tomorrow an app comes that will help us with such services I will be more than happy to download it. At the end of the day I have to feed my family."

A few drivers, however, are a little averse to the idea. "We are drivers why will be pickup and delivery luggage or packages on people's doorsteps," said Imtiaz MD.

In 2019, amendments were to the Motor Vehicles Act of 1988 (MVA) to develop schemes for innovative use of transportation assets and greater efficiency in the transport of goods. The suggestions made by the study could provide scope for regulators to allow the dual use of autorickshaws. The study was conducted in New Delhi, Lucknow, Pune, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

29th May: Have you ever visited an astrologer? I'm sure you have. If so, you'll know that, although a lot of people think astrologers spend their time predicting the future, what they really do is manage the present. Although many astrologers do make forecasts, they always understand that it is important to know what is going to happen only so that we can either change it or turn it our advantage!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Recent emotional wobbles are bound to cast a slight shadow over your financial affairs for a few days, but could inspire you to ever greater heights of achievement. See this as a good thing, for if your affairs are kept out of the glare of public scrutiny, you'll be free to manage them as you think fit.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Your relationships should be going through a relatively lively patch, and your hopes will be fulfilled as long as you follow certain ground rules; it is absolutely necessary to sympathise with others' predicaments and to do your level best to help them achieve their aims.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
This is an ideal moment to throw yourself into new affairs with a total commitment, not only to fulfilling all your responsibilities, but to completing them as well as you can. With a little extra thought, you might even overcome a major long-term obstacle in a few days' time.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Last week's conflicts and strains should now be calming down. It seems certain that the causes of any friction lie in the past, so personal problems may now be settled much more effectively than once seemed possible. You can now face the future with confidence.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Close companions may expect that you continue to provide them with support and assistance, but you may actually do them a good turn if you defy their hopes and insist that they start doing certain things for themselves. Also, if you feel trapped in the past then there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
It is a marvellous moment for finally letting other people know how you feel. There's an interesting link between emotional and intellectual regions of your chart which will lend your words an appealing emotional intensity. When your natural perfectionism comes out, all you can do is your best!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
On a material level your horoscope talks of the need to manage domestic spending much better than in the past, but the real message is psychological. You should permit yourself to be undervalued and taken for granted no longer. It's about time you were given your share of respect.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
The Moon puts you in a very strong position, which should be a morale-booster for you. It indicates that your emotions might be slightly more unsteady than usual, but that should be something that you're more than happy to live with. There might be a cost, but one you can afford.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You may promote professional and worldly ambitions ruthlessly today. You have a chance to gain in responsibility, authority and prestige, which is not to be lightly ignored. But don't imagine that doing the best for yourself means doing other people down. It doesn't!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Romantically you have every reason to keep yourself to yourself but, in other respects, it looks as if collaboration is necessary. Even at work there'll be a social dimension which will soon be impossible to ignore. The message has to be that co-operation is the only way forward.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Life should still be relatively secretive. Just why you are reluctant to confess your feelings is your business, but you can rely on an increase in your confidence, with good consequences all round, within a few days. You should feel better once news from the past has arrived.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
You could be on the move again, even if only in your imagination. In the ideal world, you'd be travelling to foreign parts. If you're stuck where you are, try to introduce a note of something distant or adventurous. There might be something profoundly attractive about people from cultures very different from your own.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

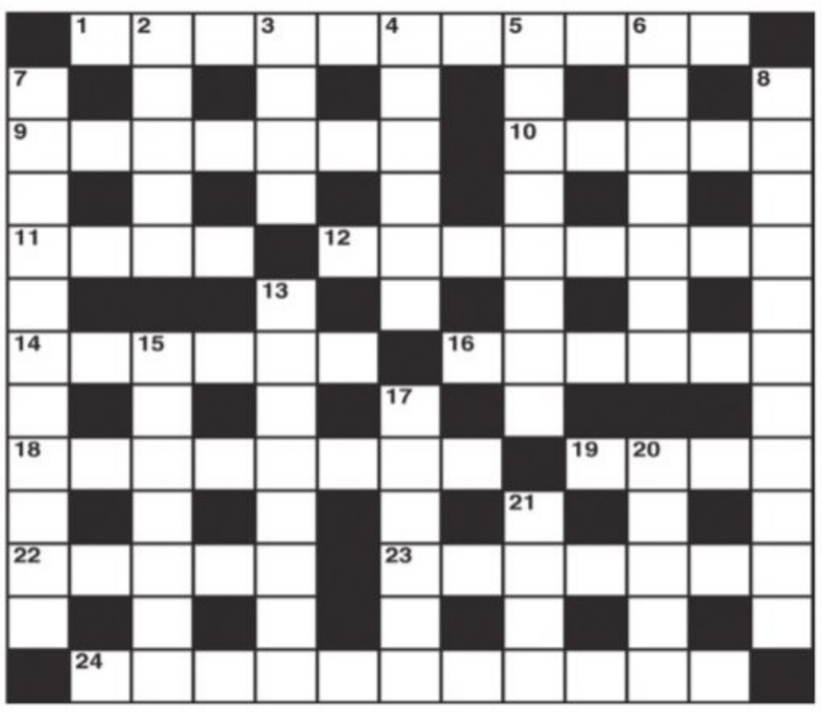
			9	6		3		7
3		4	7			9	6	
					5		1	
	6		4		3	1		9
7	4						2	5
1		8	2		6		4	
	2		5					
	3	5			9	4		6
9		7		4	8			

2	7	5	6	3	8	4	9	1
8	3	9	2	4	1	7	5	6
6	4	1	9	7	5	8	2	3
1	5	6	7	9	3	2	8	4
3	2	8	5	1	4	6	7	9
7	9	4	8	6	2	1	3	5
4	1	2	3	8	9	5	6	7
9	8	7	1	5	6	3	4	2
5	6	3	4	2	7	9	1	8

SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Maybe our teacher's not to be trusted (11)
9 A comprehensive volume bound to transport us (7)
10 Girl superstar going round South Africa (5)
11 Look low we hear (4)
12 Decline to remove wrinkles? (8)
14 Heavenly stuff for a trance perhaps (6)
16 Manage without an intermediary (6)
18 Unauthorised demand for suspension (5,3)
19 Record the same note twice - it's sharp (4)
22 Head north after a bird (5)
23 Daily journalist (7)
24 Today is someone's birthday perhaps (7,4)

DOWN

1 Scope for shooting (5)
3 Religious house is too much for this priest (4)
4 Esther's other name (6)
5 Hold back and shower after all the others (8)
6 Go back to score an advantage over a fellow-player? (7)
7 Vulgar locality lacking distinction (11)
8 Blockades that should pay dividends (11)
13 High speed at home points to a number of gadgets (8)
15 Study excursion outline (7)
17 Cultural centre? (6)
20 Figure it produces light separation (5)
21 Such hypocrisy is not possible, it appears (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Penned, 4 Glass war, 9 Leader, 10 Free love, 12 Sash, 13 Andes, 14 Flee, 17 Firm proposal, 20 Holds the line, 23 Acre, 24 Decoy, 25 Best, 28 Inwardly, 29 Salome, 30 Sunbathe, 31 Heresy.

Down: 1 Pulls off, 2 Noah's ark, 3 Even, 5 Large portion, 6 Shed, 7 Wholly, 8 Reeves, 11 Untold wealth, 15 Spoof, 16 Camel, 18 Tiresome, 19 Leathery, 21 Varies, 22 Draw in, 26 Aria, 27 Fade.

JUMBLE UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

PAYOS

CRIEI

SCECAS

HORTAT

This patient will help us keep a leg up on the competition.
They should be worried about us. We're not going anywhere.
DANIEL HAYES BEGAN MAKING MATTRESSES IN SEALY, TEXAS IN 1881, AND THE ---
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: CHIVE DROOP HAMPER SONATA
Answer: Whoever came up with the expression "turn on a dime" — COINED A PHRASE

Gadag has witnessed a rise in child marriages and POCSO cases in the last four years. In 2022-23, the Child Protection Cell managed to prevent 47 child marriages and 31 POCSO cases were reported. In 2023-24, three child marriages took place and eight POCSO cases were registered

BENGALURU - CHIKKABALLAPUR

COMMUNTERS CLAMOUR FOR MEMU TRAINS

Citzens cite long travel time, lack of amenities

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

WITH the full stretch between Yelahanka and Kolar running into 149 km electrified two months ago and the green signal given by the Central Organisation for Railway Electrification, daily commuters on the stations enroute demand that Mainline Electrical Multiple Unit (MEMU) trains be launched along this section at the earliest.

The two DEMU train pairs running between Kolar and Bengaluru via Chikkaballapur and Devanahalli and in the return direction are not sufficient, said commuters.

The KSR Bengaluru-Kolar DEMU (Train nos. 76551 and 16549) and Kolar-KSR Bengaluru DEMU (Train nos.76552 and 16550) are currently operational.

Amruth Gowda, a resident of Chintamani, Chikkaballapur district, and a rail enthusiast, said that the South Western Railway Zone was neglecting this section. "This is a 100-year-old railway line opened during the British era by the Mysuru State Railways. IT employees, farmers, students and government employees commute to Bengaluru during weekdays. There are six MEMU trains running from Bengaluru and Airport station with very poor patronage. These trains can be extended up to Chikkaballapur, which is around 20 km from Devanahalli. It will help so many of us here," he explained. His father, a government employee, commutes regularly between the two cities, he added.

A government official said, "I leave by the 7.07am Kolar-Hassan Express for my workplace at Malleswaram. The train is supposed to reach Yesvantpur at 9.20am but only reaches around 10am. We somehow make it to the office on time. However, the real issue is the terrible toilets. The doors are in a bad shape, toilets are not maintained and it does not have water often. I really hope the Bengaluru Railway Division can improve the amenities on this train at least for us."

Krishna Prasad, a member of Karnataka Railway Vedike, said it was important the route gets MEMU trains. "Chikkaballapur is a district headquarters. It is just 68km from Bengaluru and hundreds of government officials and students studying at Yelahanka and Devanahalli need to come to Bengaluru regularly. With the free medical college and hospital opened by PM recently, many from Bengaluru too would like to commute there to avail treatment," he said, adding that the single line running between Yelahanka and Devanahalli needs to be doubled.

> There are six MEMU trains running from Bengaluru and Airport station with very poor patronage. These trains can be extended up to Chikkaballapur, which is around 20 km from Devanahalli m
>
> Amruth Gowda, Chintamani resident

Divisional Railway Manager, Bengaluru Division, Shyam Singh, said, "Suggestions will be examined to check requirements and operational feasibility."

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION

After 3 yrs, B'luru logs zero Covid cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BENGALURU reported zero Covid cases on Saturday, after a gap of nearly three years, ever since the pandemic broke out in 2020.

It was rare that the capital reported no cases, despite 1,985 tests being performed on the day. Only 12 positive cases were reported, with a majority of them in Shivamogga (six cases).

Dr MK Sudarshan, Technical Advisory Committee chairman said, "The Covid situation in Karnataka has reached a plateau-like stage, as many symptomatic patients are not coming forward to get tested." The number of tests being performed has continued to be the same, but the number of patients testing positive has reduced over a span of 3-4 weeks.

No cause for worry

The statewide number of cases has remained below 500 since April-end. Though the World Health Organisation had declared in early May, that Covid is not of international concern, experts have said the surveillance of Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI), international passengers, and sewage water testing must continue, to identify new viruses in future.

Dr Sudarshan asserted that the Covid situation is no cause for worry, and the Omicron variant does not pose any danger.

5,575 Total tests conducted	134 Active cases in Karnataka
16 Active cases in Bengaluru	
31 Positive cases on the day	0.46% Positivity rate (AS ON MAY 28)

QUICK BRUSH-UP

UPSC aspirants go through some last-minute revision prior to the start of the preliminary examination, at an exam centre in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

70-yr-old woman raped by two men in Kunigal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Tumakuru

IN a shocking incident, a 70-year-old Dalit woman was allegedly raped by two caste-Hindu men at Shettigehalli in Kunigal taluk a week ago, with the incident coming to light only on Saturday.

Superintendent of Police Rahulkumar Shahapurwad said that the incident occurred on the night of May 21, and an FIR was filed against the accused on Saturday. Meanwhile, the accused remain at large.

The accused, identified as Rajesha and Manjunatha, are in their forties, and hail from Kunigal town. They had arrived at the survivor's place, along with her son-in-law, to attend her granddaughter's wedding.

The accused had consumed liquor, along with the survivor's son-in-law, and are alleged to have committed the crime in an inebriated state, before fleeing.

Meanwhile, the septuagenarian was admitted to a government hospital and her situation is stable. She also underwent a medical test. Following a complaint by the son-in-law of the woman, Kunigal police registered a case.

CRIME PATROL

Man held for murdering friend over reporting irregularly to work

Bengaluru: A 40-year-old man is suspected to have been murdered by his friend near Sadarmangala for not reporting to work regularly. The deceased is identified as Virendra Kumar, who worked as a painter at a private hospital. Kumar is a native of Uttar Pradesh and was working as a painter along with his friend, Mahendra Verma (29). Both were residing in a shed near Sadarmangala along with other workers from UP. On Friday night, Verma questioned Kumar about his absence from work regularly and a fight broke out between the two. Verma allegedly strangled him, pushed him down and kicked him, resulting in Kumar's death, police said. They said that Verma returned to the shed to sleep as if nothing happened. On Saturday, other workers who came to see Kumar, assumed he was sleeping after drinking. But later, they felt something amiss when they found that he had not woken up for a long time, and found him dead. They informed their contractor who lodged a complaint.

Liberian held at KIA with 2kg cocaine

Bengaluru: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Bengaluru, has arrested a Liberian under the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, after they seized 2kg cocaine - a classified drug worth around Rs 30 crore in the international grey market - from her possession. According to sources, the DRI intercepted the Liberian, aged around 38, at the Kempegowda International Airport on May 26 and seized 2kg of cocaine from her. "She was carrying the contraband in powder form in her check-in baggage. She was instructed by her handlers to hand over the consignment to some persons in Bengaluru," sources said, adding that she had travelled from Addis Ababa to Bengaluru by Ethiopian Airlines.

Police arrest accused in two burglary cases

Bengaluru: Kamakshipalya police arrested three of seven accused who were involved in burgling an auto driver's house. The arrested are identified as Preetham alias Appu (21), Ranjith (22) and Vinay Kumar (19). The remaining four accused Praveen, Altaf, Bharath and Manoj, are absconding. On May 26 midnight, the accused entered auto driver Nagesh's house in Kamakshipalya, and robbed him at gunpoint. In another case, Hebbagodi police arrested two robbers - Saravana (39) and Dinesh (33) - natives of Tamil Nadu, who had burgled a house in Hebbagodi, knowing that the owner was away to cast his vote in the Assembly polls. Police recovered gold jewellery worth Rs 9 lakh.

Home alone senior citizen murdered, robbed

Bengaluru: Robbers killed an 82-year-old woman and burgled her house in Nagapura, falling under Mahalakshmi Layout police limits on Saturday. The deceased, Kamalamma, was residing alone in her house. On Sunday, when the area was deserted, robbers barged into her house, tied her up and stuffed her mouth with a cloth. Kamalamma died of suffocation, and the robbers stole the jewellery she was wearing and other valuables from the house and fled, police said. Around 8pm, Kamalamma's neighbours saw that the lights in her house were not turned on. When they went into the house to check, they found Kamalamma lying dead, her mouth stuffed with a cloth, police added. Neighbours immediately alerted police, who visited the house and started investigation by examining CCTV footage around Kamalamma's house. Kamalamma has two daughters and a son who reside in different areas, and based on a complaint filed by her son Guruprasad, Mahalakshmi Layout police registered a case and set up a special team to nab the offenders.

PAN No.: AAMAS1356G GSTIN NO.: 29AAMAS1356G1Z7

SHRI BHIMASHANKAR SAHAKARI SAKKARE KHARKANE NIYAMIT MARAGUR

SITE AT MARAGUR Post: Margur - 586204 Taluka: Indi Dist: Vijaypura, Karnataka State
Email Id: purchase.bsskn@gmail.com

No. BSSKN/ Purchase/ 2023-24/ Date: 25.05.2023

Tender Notification

Tender - A

Sealed tenders are invited from manufacturers, authorized dealers, stockists, reputed & experienced suppliers of Mill Spares, Mechanical General Goods, Welding Materials & Accessories, MS Pipe & Pipe Fittings, Valves, Iron & Steel, Hardware Materials, Khalashi Materials, Workshop Tools & Tackles, Rubber Goods, Centrifugal Machine Spares, Chain & Chain Spares, Bearings & CI Pedestals on ARC Basis, GM Bearing & Bushes, Mill Roller Reshelling / Re-grooving, Gear Box & Spares, Couplings & V-Belts, Rubber Goods, Pumps & Pump Spares, Oils & Lubricants, Centrifugal Machine Spares, Sugar Hopper & Grader Spares, Belt Conveyors & Sugar Stacker Spares, Special Purpose & General Welding Rods/Accessories, Gas Cylinder, Boiler IBR Repairs, APH Tubes Supply & Repairs & Spares, Turbine Spares, Mechanical General Goods, Work Shop lath machine, Electrical Spares, Instrumentation & Field Instruments & Spares, Paints & Brushes, Job Work Out Sourcing, Servicing by Outsource, ESP Spares & Repairs, Repairing & Reconditioning of OC Filters with spares, Dynamic balancing of Rotating machineries, General Job works fabrication & Installation of various works, UT & DP Testing, Boiler feed pump servicing, VFD Spares, Tube Cleaning Equipment & Spares, Transformer Oil Filtration, Wooden Wire Brushes, PP Bag Closing Machine Spares, Hand Stitching Machine for PP Bag Closing, JISL Make Printer Ink & Printer Accessories. Chemicals for Lab, Sugar Process, WTP, ETP, Boiler & Cooling Tower. Laboratory Instruments. Screens for Centrifugal & Sugar Grader. Bamboo Mat, HDPE Tarpaulin, Temporary Sugar Storage Shed. Bamboos, Cane Harvesting Knives (Koyta), Tents & Sling Ropes. AMC & Servicing for Air Compressor, Air Blowers, Weigh Bridge, Turbine, Boiler & Refractory, WTP & ETP Analysis & Civil Insulations. Rental for DG Sets, PP Bags, Stitching Thread, Safety Items, Firewood, Computer & Printers Accessories, CCTV Accessories. Stationary Materials, Printing of Various Books & Registers, Canvas & Cotton Cloth.

Tender - B

Labour contractor for labor work

Tender – C

Security agency Contract

Tender forms are available in the factory office & interested vendors can obtain the form on payment of **Rs 590/-per form (With GST Non Refundable)** in cash/RTGS/NEFT/ in the name of the factory Bank Details are as below. **Beneficiary Name Shri Bhimashankar S S K Niyamit, Margur. Bank Name - Karnataka Vikas Gramin Bank, Dhulakhed Branch, Account No 89093623902, IFSC Code KVGB0003202.**

Terms & Conditions:-

1. EMD will be 2 % of the total value of quoted tender value of the material to be supplied & should be enclosed with the tender form by way of Cheque / DD of Nationalised Bank.
2. Conditional tender will not be considered.
3. Tender forms will be issued from 29th May 2023 during the working hours at factory site.
4. Last date of issuing the tender form 8th June 2023 before 5 PM.
5. Last date of submission of the tender form 15th June 2023.
6. Technical & Commercial negotiation meeting will be intimated later on by E-Mail/Phone.
7. All authorised dealers have to provide complete specification, catalogues along with tender Submission without fail.
8. Management reserves the right to accept /Reject the tenders in full or part without Assigning any Reasons thereof.

For details contact: Purchase Officer: 9049634421

Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR **Sd/- CHAIRMAN**

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala)
THYCAUD P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695014
Tele: 0471-2945646, 2945600
website: www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, e-mail: eptenders.kmscl@kerala.gov.in
CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No. KMSCL/EP/9320/2023 Dated : 26.05.2023

e-TENDER NOTICE (Running Contract)

Online bids are invited for the supply and installation of the following equipment for various Government healthcare institutions across Kerala

Sl. No	Tender No.	Description	Online Pre-Bid Meeting	Last date of Online submission
1.	T495/2023	Micro Incinerator, Micro Centrifuge, Binocular Microscope LED with Camera	N.A.	09.06.2023 05.00 p.m.
2.	T496(R)/ 2023	Sample Mixer, Transcutaneous Bilirubinometer, Fume Hood, OT Light LED with Camera TypeB, Puretone Audiometer Model B	N.A.	09.06.2023 05.00 p.m.

QUOTATION

Sealed Quotations are invited for the supply of the following items

3.	Q112/2023	Alchohol Thermometer, Incubator Dry Bath, Hot Plate	N.A.	09.06.2023 11.30 a.m.

State Public Sector undertakings and MSMEs registered in the State or registered outside the state satisfying the policy of Government of India are exempted from remittance of tender document cost and EMD subject to the submission of valid documents, provided all the offered products are manufactured by them. Tender documents and all other information related to tender and bidding process can be downloaded from the website www.etenders.kerala.govin.

Sd/- Managing Director (Tender Inviting Authority)

RAJIV GANDHI CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY
RGCB DISCOVERIES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW
An Autonomous National Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India
Thycaud PO, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram 695 014
Phone: 0471 2529400, www.rgcb.res.in

Advt No: RGCB/MSc/2023-24 May 26, 2023

RGCB invites application for Admission to the Master's Degree in Biotechnology 2023-24.

RGCB MSc program is affiliated to the Regional Centre for Biotechnology an "Institution of National Importance" providing education, training and research established by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This program will be for two years inclusive of four semesters. The candidates must have a valid GAT-B score and an aggregate of 60% marks (or an equivalent grade point average) in Bachelor's degree in any branch of Science and as per UGC guideline. The final selection of the students will be done based on the GAT-B rank and the cut-off rank/score fixed by RGCB for each category. All students admitted to the MSc program shall receive a stipend of ₹6000 per month for the first year and ₹8000 for the second year. Complete information, application format and other details are available on the RGCB website (**www.rgcb.res.in**). Filled application form must be submitted online through the link given in the web portal on or before **June 18, 2023**. Incomplete applications will be rejected. Counseling of the MSc Biotechnology program will be held from June 20, 2023 onwards.

Sd/-, Director

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,
H.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 560 018.
Phone: 26677552, 26679041

PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Auction sale under the securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforce of Security Interest Act 2002 Section 13(4) of the Immovable properties mortgaged to The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is brought to Sale under **" AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION".** Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/(s) and Guarantor/(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, **Symbolic possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer.

Sl. No	Name of the Borrower	Discription of Property	Balance Outstanding	Auction Date
1	**Sri T.Somashekaraiah S/o M.Thimmarayappa # A 1222, Ground Floor 18th B Main, 20th Cross, A Block Sahakara Nagar Bengaluru-92**	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.2, in Sy.No3, New Katha No.1. Chikkasandra Village. Panchayat Old Katha No.107, present Katha No.130/130, situated at Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. Comes under BBMP katha No.1. Shettyhalli Sub-Division, Bangalore. Measuring East to West: 30 ft and North To South: 40 ft., totally measuring 1200 Sq ft, Property consist Ground, First & Second Floor building with all civic amenities and bounded East by: Site No.7, West by: Road, North by ; Road, South by: Site No.1. **Reserve Price of Property : Rs.66,56,000/- (10% is Rs.6,65,600/-)**	**Rs.34,07,364/- Upto 23.05.2023**	**01.07.2023 Saturday at 11.00 am**
2	**Smt A.Hemavathi W/o Krishna Reddy No. 348, Basavanna Temple Street, 8 Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 095**	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.4, (in erstwhile Khatha No.102/1, Chellakere Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk) Somaguda Reddy Layout, Chellakere, Within BBMP limits New PID No.025-W0876-2, New Ward No.25, New Ward name Horamavu, Bangalore-560043. Measuring East to West: 22 ft and North To South:30 ft totally measuring 660 sq ft., Together building with all easementary rights and bounded as East by: Property belonging to Venugopal Reddy, West by: Property belonging to Chikkathayappa, North by ; Property belonging to Ramaswamy Reddy, South by: Northern portion of property No.2 allotted to A.Hemavathi. **Reserve Price of Property : Rs.78,59,000/- (10% is Rs.7,85,900/-).**	**Rs.19,75,713/- Upto 23.05.2023**	**01.07.2023 Saturday at 11.30 am**
3	**Smt S.Saira W/o A.Srinivasulu Flat No.A-1, Key Stone Manor No.2, Peazold Road, Rechards Town, Bengaluru-560 084**	The Residential Apartment Flat No.A, in the Ground Floor with Super structure building known to be "ANJI VILLA" having built up area measuring 700 Sq.ft with 142 Sq.ft of undivided share in land along with common area with one scooter parking constructed on property bearing No.17 and 17/1, (old No.7) PID Nos.80-5-17 & 80-5-17/1, situated at Pettigrew Street, Civil Station, Ward No.80. Bangalore. Measuring East To West: 35'6" and North To South: 47'9" measuring in all 1695 Sq.ft and bounded as East by: Property bearing old No.16, Pettigrew Street, West by: Property bearing old No.18, Pettigrew Street, North by: Pettigrew Street & South by: Private Property of Todd Lane. **Reserve Price of Property : Rs.25,20,000/- (10% is Rs.2,52,000/-).**	**Rs.32,05,502/- Upto 23.05.2023**	**01.07.2023 Saturday at 12 Noon**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) The public auction will be conducted in the premises of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Head Office No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018.
(2) For participation in the auction the intending bidders have to deposit an amount equivalent to 10% of the Reserve price of the property being cautioned deposit by means of Demand Draft/Pay Order drawn in favour of M/s.The Grain Merchant's Co.Operative Bank Ltd., The cautioned deposit shall be forfeited by the bank without any prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms of sale, time and commits default in any manner.
(3) The Property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price
(4) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refund without interest.
(5) The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD) within 24 Hours after the auction sale, in Cash or Demand Draft and the balance of the Sale price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.
(6) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues/taxes/charges/property tax/electricity charges/water charges/conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.
(7) The authorized officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all if the tender or/bid/offer and/or adjourn/postpone/ cancel the auction sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.
(8) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
(9) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder between 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. at his/her expenses at the address mentioned in the schedule.
(10) The property is put for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" AND "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"** the intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title,ownership,statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co Operative Bank Ltd., Bengaluru-18

Place: Bangalore
Date: 23.05.2023

Your Guide to Spicy Living | INDULGE | Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

In an open letter on Saturday, BJP national general secretary and former MLA CT Ravi took strong exception to the new Congress government's order withholding all ongoing projects sanctioned by the earlier BJP government, and said that it will act as a setback to the development of Chikkamagaluru district

Pressure mounts on Siddu govt to get guarantee schemes going

Oppn urges people not to pay power bills; failure on guarantees to affect LS poll prospects

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

THE new Congress government is coming under a great deal of pressure with regard to implementation of the five guarantees the party has promised the people of Karnataka, which helped it wrest power from the BJP.

Already, there is a buzz on social media and certain web portals are speculating on the yardstick and criteria the government will apply to select beneficiaries. Some people have also started thronging government offices to get their BPL cards and Aadhaar done, in the hope of getting the benefits.

Working out the modalities and fixing the criteria with a bar for the beneficiaries would be a daunting task, and if the government errs, it is likely to face a backlash in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, according to political pundits.

"We should strive sincerely to ensure the guarantees reach the people. The mistakes of the past should not be repeated this time," Chief Minister Siddaramaiah stated on Sunday. According to him, Rs 50,000 crore per annum is needed to implement all the guarantees, including 200 units of free electricity, Rs 2,000 to women heads of every family, Rs 3,000 for unemployed graduates and Rs 1,500 for diploma holders, 10kg of free rice per head for BPL families, and free travel in government buses for women.

The BJP has already started mounting pressure, with former minister M P Renukacharya giving a call to people not to pay electricity bills. JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy attacked Siddaramaiah, saying the CM should ensure the guarantees to "all the people" of the state. "I will pick up from these guarantees as the Congress has come to power on these promises," he had stated.

In some places, people have started resisting paying electricity bills, resulting in clashes with Escom staffers. Minister Eshwar Khandre on Sunday told reporters that households which do not use beyond 200 units of electricity are eligible for the guarantee, and need not pay the bill for June. Dr G Parameshwara, meanwhile, said the government is likely to set up a committee to steer the schemes.

Meanwhile, officials who are working out the modalities are likely to present them to the government at the next cabinet meeting, likely on June 1.

"If they can implement 60 per cent of the guarantees, it will be fine. We are in a no hurry as we have pinned hopes on Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, who are very big leaders," remarked Thimmegowda from KR Nagar, who drives a cab to eke out a living in Bengaluru. Many like him are eagerly waiting for the government to implement the guarantees, and to see the criteria it will fix.

> **We should strive sincerely to ensure the guarantees reach the people. The mistakes of the past should not be repeated this time**
>
> Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister

Guarantees not for all, those paying I-T won't get them: Satish

BELAGAVI: Newly-inducted minister Satish Jarkiholi on Sunday said that the guarantee schemes announced by the Congress government are not for all in the state, including those paying income tax. "The guarantee schemes cannot be given to all the same way how guarantee cards were distributed door-to-door during the election. The poor and needy will be identified first to implement the guarantee schemes," said Jarkiholi, speaking at a public function after receiving a felicitation at Bailuru village of Kittur taluk in Belagavi district on Sunday. "People of the state have a lot of expectations from our government. We will fulfil all the promises that were made during the election. We are ready to fulfil the guarantee schemes too. But, the Opposition is creating confusion. We have given the guarantees, not the Opposition parties. So, we need some time to fulfil them and preparations are already afoot to implement the said schemes," he said. Further, he added, "The guarantee schemes cannot be given to those who pay income tax and to government employees. Moreover, some people have said that they do not want guarantee schemes. So, the government will come up with regulations on who will be eligible and who will not, for the schemes. A complete set of details of the schemes will come out after the next cabinet meeting. We will implement them, but with conditions."

Newly-inducted ministers Laxmi Hebbalkar and Satish Jarkiholi greet supporters upon their arrival in Belagavi on Sunday | EXPRESS

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar shares a light moment with minister B Ramalinga Reddy at the latter's residence in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

DKS meets Ramalinga, but minister still miffed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A day after the 34-member full cabinet led by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah came into existence, hectic parleys were held to pacify senior cabinet member Ramalinga Reddy, who is said to be unhappy with the portfolio allocated to him, though it has not been made public yet.

His followers had asked him to quit all party posts in protest, which made the chief minister intervene. First, Siddaramaiah spoke to Reddy and later, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar called on the minister at his residence and held discussions for hours.

Emerging from the meeting, Shivakumar said, "As party president and Ramalinga Reddy as working president, we discussed many issues related to the party. If we had gone to another party, we could have got higher positions. However, we have not left as the disciplined soldiers of the party. We are bound by the decision of the party."

Later in the evening, Shivakumar met Siddaramaiah and passed on the message that Reddy was still not convinced with his portfolio. The two decided to appeal to Reddy to continue with the post for a while with the promise of a better portfolio later. Sources said Reddy was allotted transport, though he wanted Bengaluru development that is said to have been taken by Shivakumar. Now, Reddy is likely to get an additional portfolio, the sources added. Meanwhile, the newly-appointed ministers returned to their Assembly constituencies to a rousing welcome. Top police officers, including Kamal Pant and Ravi D Channannanavar, called on Dr G Parameshwara and greeted him.

The list of portfolios allotted to the ministers has reached the governor's office and is likely to be released on Monday, sources told *TNIE*.

CM SETS TARGET OF 20 LS SEATS TO MINISTERS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has set a target for all his 34 ministers on winning the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. "We should win at least 20 Lok Sabha constituencies as a gift to party national president Mallikarjun Kharge and Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi," he told his cabinet colleagues. "It is our responsibility to provide a pro-people administration according to their expectations. Take steps to solve problems locally and prevent them from running from pillar to post even for small works," he added. He felt the situation is ideal to put an end to the alleged misrule of the Centre through Karnataka's verdict.

All vacancies will be filled soon: DyCM

BANSY KALAPPA
@ Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Sunday promised to sort out the employment issue in the state, claiming it was a priority for his government. Emerging from a meeting with Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation staffers, where they requested that the many existing vacancies be filled up, Shivakumar assured them that not only their department, but other department vacancies too would be filled up.

It may be recalled that soon after taking charge, minister Priyank Kharge had said there are 2.5 lakh vacancies in the government and they would be filled up soon. Asked about it, Kharge told TNIE, "This is something we have promised in our manifesto, and even during meetings, our party leaders have stressed that they will honour it."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and DyCM Shivakumar, at the recent cabinet meeting, had informed ministers that regardless of portfolios, all the existing vacancies and backlogs need to be filled up. Asked about the timeline, he said a process has to be followed while filling up vacancies, which includes advertising, holding of examinations and other mandatory exercises for recruitment, and they have to follow it. He said that after the recent sub-inspector recruitment scam, there is an air of disillusionment and therefore, while we ensure that the vacancies are filled up, we need to ascertain that all processes are complete. Kharge had earlier said the government will review the bills of the previous government that "do not create employment".

Basavaprabhu Swamiji picked to manage Murugha Mutt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chitradurga

THE acting head of Murugha Mutt, Basavaprabhu Swamiji, has been chosen to head the mutt by the temporary core committee formed to run day-to-day affairs of the mutt and SJM educational institutions.

Devotees of the Mutt, who had assembled on the directions of the Karnataka High Court, decided to form the temporary core committee till the POCSO case against head of the mutt, Pontiff Dr Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru, is decided. Prominent personalities from the Lingayat community, including MLA Veerendra KC, Hanumali Shanmukhappa and others, attended the meeting. Based on the unanimous decision of the meeting, it was decided to hand over the mantle of the committee to Basavaprabhu Swamiji. It was also unanimously decided to make MLA Veerendra Puppy the secretary of the committee.

Basavaprabhu Swamiji told *TNIE* that the temporary arrangement was arrived at based on the directions of the High Court, which quashed the state government order to appoint an administrator to the mutt. The court had also directed Lingayat community members to make an alternative arrangement.

He said the high court will be informed of the unanimous decision taken at the mutt on Sunday and administrative activities of the mutt will continue smoothly.

On the power of attorney of SJM institutions given to retired judge Vastramutt, he said it is still in effect. The other members of the core committee will be decided on the directions of the high court, as on Sunday, only the president and secretary were finalised, he added.

CM seeks report on water contamination in Raichur

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THREE days after a three-year-old boy died after consuming contaminated drinking water at Rekalmardi, Devadurga taluk, Raichur district, two more persons fell ill on Sunday. At least 34 people from the village who have fallen ill drinking the contaminated water were still being treated at government hospitals in Devadurga taluk on Sunday.

Taking a serious note of the incident, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah asked officials to send water samples to labs for testing. He also told them to conduct a health checkup of the villagers.

He directed the zilla panchayat chief executive officer to provide compensation to the family of the deceased. He spoke to the CEO over phone and directed him to take immediate action to supply clean drinking water to the villagers.

He asked officials to conduct an inquiry and submit him a report. He also asked them to visit Rekalmardi immediately and conduct a comprehensive inspection.

He told officials to close all contaminated water sources. "All measures should be taken to ensure that such incidents do not recur," said a statement from the Chief Minister's Office.

Apart from Rekalmardi, 25 villagers at Gorebal in Lingasugur taluk of Raichur district have also fallen ill after drinking contaminated water over the last three days.

The water samples from Gorebal have been sent for testing after villagers complained of vomiting and loose motions, said the Raichur DHO. Laboratory reports of the samples from Rekalmardi revealed that the water was "unfit" for drinking, he added.

The people in both Rekalmardi and Gorebal had consumed water supplied through taps installed by the local panchayats. Over 60 people from the two villages have taken ill over the last few days. Those with serious health problems from Rekalmardi were admitted to Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, while others are being treated at the local PHC, sources said.

People in Rekalmardi largely depended on tap water or private borewells as all the RO plants installed at the village by local authorities are not working, sources said.

Some local residents said the underground water pipeline that supplies water to the villagers in Rekalmardi had burst sometime ago and the tap water got mixed with drain water.

In June last year, five persons had died and a large number of people suffered health problems in Raichur district.

POITICAL THEATRE

Congress MLA says he's proud to be RSS volunteer, creates stir

CHIKKAMAGALURU: Newly-elected Congress MLA H D Thammaiah's recent statement at a felicitation function, highlighting his loyalty to the RSS as a disciplined volunteer, has stirred up a controversy. His statement has invited mixed reactions from workers of both the ruling and Opposition parties. While Congress workers are critical of Thammaiah's statement, Sangh Parivar members have welcomed it.

Thammaiah had said that he felt proud to declare himself as a volunteer of the Sangh, as it had taught him discipline, even as he remains a person with secular credentials. "The Sangh has groomed me in various aspects. Although I am a Congress MLA, I am proud to say that I am a disciplined volunteer of the Sangh," Thammaiah told the gathering. A barrage of comments regarding his statement, on social media, created ripples in political circles.

COURTESY CALL

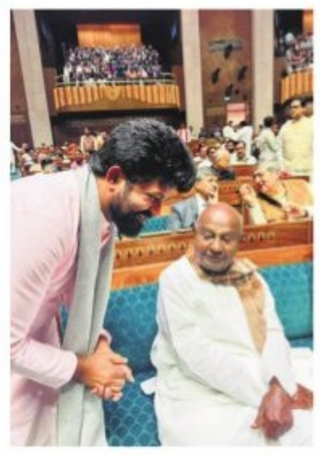
Udupi Pejawar Math seer Sri Vishwaprasanna Tirtha Swamiji blesses newly-inducted minister Dr G Parameshwara and his wife Kannika Parameshwari at their residence in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

Fortunate to sit in new Parl building: Gowda

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FORMER Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda, who attended the inauguration of the new Parliament building, said he is fortune to witness a great moment in the country's democratic history.

"Indian Parliament has seen highs and lows. It has seen arrogance and humility, victories and defeats, but overall, it has tried to keep a balance and fulfil the aspirations of the people of India. It has nourished all nature of opinion, all castes, all ethnicities, religions, languages and geographies. It has accommodated all nature of opinions, ideas and ideologies... There is no greater goal for us than to preserve this enormous diversity of India," he appealed.



BJP MP Pratap Simha has a word with former PM and JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda, during the inauguration of the new Parliament building, in New Delhi on Sunday | TWITTER

Back in the day

Recalling the initial days of his political career, he said, "I entered the Karnataka legislative assembly in 1962, and have been a Member of Parliament since 1991. When I entered this great House of the people 32 years ago, I had never thought I will be Prime Minister, and did not expect to last this long in public life. The even bigger surprise is that I never thought I will be seated in a new Parliament building in my lifetime -- I did so at the age of 91," he said.

Gowda stated that in Indian tradition, the construction of a new home or entering a new home is an auspicious moment.

Gowda explained that Indians have always been watchful and wise. "Whenever they have seen someone commit excess and disturb the equilibrium of our nation, they have quietly taken them out of this great House. They have taught us all public servants the hardest lessons at times. I pray that our rich democratic tradition continue and flourishes, he added.

METAL MOVE

13 years after being dumped, iron ore leaves from Karwar for China

SUBHASH CHANDRA NS
@ Karwar

THIRTEEN years after it was dumped in Karwar Port, the iron ore from here is now headed for China. Around 37,320 metric tons of iron ore of the total 1.15 metric tons seized by the forest department is now China-bound after the material was auctioned, following permission by a local court.

The iron ore was seized way back in 2010 and was stocked in Karwar, where about 50,000 metric tons of it was reportedly stolen the following year. A case was registered and mining firms had approached local courts to dispose of the remaining ore. A court recently ordered the auction of 32,000 metric tons of the ore. However, despite the order, not many came forward to buy the material stocked here.

Recently, a Maharastra-based company evinced interest and was awarded the tender to procure a mound of iron ore, which was additionally little more than 7,000 metric tons. The company also has an export licence and has already begun exporting to China.

"Not all the mineral has been auctioned. Only that belonging to the company Raj Mahal Mining has been exported, while the ore belonging to Vedanta group is yet to be exported," C Swamy, Director, Department of Port Karwar told *The News Indian Express*.

The iron ore that was lying in Karwar Port since 2010 | EXPRESS

He said that only the iron ore in Karwar is being exported, while that in Belekere will remain there until the matter is resolved in court.

Accordingly, iron ore was shipped to China on May 22, 2023, aboard the ship 'MV Notos Ventura'. The remaining two mounds of iron ore belonging to Vedanta group will be disposed of once the company pays the required fees.

Export of iron ore from Karwar began in 2003, and the same continued until 2010. Based on a complaint in 2010, that the illegally mined ore was being exported from the port, the entire activity came to a grinding halt after the forest department and the Department of Mines and Geology seized 18 mounds of the ore, measuring about 50 metric tons.

The matter reached the Supreme Court, which enforced a total ban on iron ore export until October 2020, when it was lifted.

Sabarimala temple will be opened at 5pm on Monday for a day to celebrate the idol reinstallation anniversary to be held on Tuesday. No rituals will be performed at the sreekovil in the evening as part of the ongoing practice of the temple

BACK TO SCHOOL, WITH BIG CHANGES

Implementation of NEP 2020, altered textbooks, school infrastructure likely to impact the state of education this year

BIG PICTURE

AT A GLANCE

MAY 29: REOPENING FOR TEACHERS

MAY 31: REOPENING FOR STUDENTS

47,483 GOVT SCHOOLS IN KARNATAKA

44,78,942 STUDENTS TO RECEIVE FREE UNIFORMS

CHECKLIST

CLASSROOMS: Renovation undertaken, basic cleaning to be done over next two days

UNIFORMS: Distributed

TEXTBOOKS: Distributed

NEP: Implemented in anganwadis as planned, new government may bring changes

DONNA EVA @Bengaluru

GOVERNMENT schools are set to reopen this week, with as many as 44.78 lakh students returning to classrooms after a long summer vacation. While it seems like the regular 'back to school' for students, several factors make it different, including the proposed changes to be brought by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 this year, and induction of a new government less than two weeks ago. The department also faces a slew of transfers as old commissioners and officials have retired, and new ones have replaced them.

The 47,483 government schools in Karnataka have faced several controversies and changes over the past two years, like distribution of shoes and socks, and changes to textbooks mid-academic year. In this context, as well as under the leadership of a new commissioner, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL) has been taking active measures to ensure that students don't return to dilapidated classrooms or without their needs being met.

Preparations start

The DSEL issued a calendar of events, stating that government schools would begin by May 29. However, sources in the department told TNIE that on the first two days of school -- May 29 and 30 – teachers would report to school and prepare the classrooms for the students.

"The students will be attending classes from May 31 onwards. Until then, teachers have two days to prepare the schools and ensure they are clean and presentable for the students. This will include general cleaning of classrooms, libraries, labs and toilets, as well as preparing programmes and other necessary requirements for the upcoming academic year," they said.

State of infrastructure

It is no secret that infrastructure in government schools is poor. Several cases of dilapidated and collapsing classrooms have been reported all over the state for years, with students needing to be suddenly evacuated or sustaining injuries, especially during the monsoon.

Over the past few months, the department has worked towards renovating schools in a phase-wise manner. Former school education commissioner R Vishal told TNIE that a report on the status of schools had been submitted, and renovation was taking place depending on the extent of damage.

Late last year, amid several complaints of poor infrastructure in schools, then Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai sanctioned Rs 1,000 crore for the renovation of as many as 6,000 classrooms. "The work was divided based on the extent of damage, as well as the number of students who were likely to be affected. Schools with a large number of students and those needing major repairs were on the shortlist to be renovated first," the former commissioner told *TNIE*. However, though schools are to begin this week, renovation works will continue and are likely to end only at the end of the year.

Uniform distribution

The department has to distribute free uniforms to 44.78 lakh students. While there are issues related to the distribution of uniforms, with many students not receiving them, this year the department has made use of the Student Achievement Tracking System (SATS) to get an accurate number of how many uniforms will be needed.

The department has enlisted the help of several organisations in the manufacture of uniforms and their distribution. In a circular dated March 16, the department released the list of organisations, divided along district lines. In Yadgir, Koppal, Kalaburagi, Bidar and Raichur, the department has enlisted the help of Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation (KHDC) to help supply uniforms needed for Class 1 to Class 10 students.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka State Textile Infrastructure Development Corporation (KSTIDC) has been enlisted to supply uniforms to some districts of Belagavi division, like Chikkodi, Bagalkot, Gadag and Haveri. However, in a major part of the state, including the rest of Belagavi division, and entire Mysuru and Bengaluru divisions, uniforms will be supplied by Rajasthan-based textile company Kanchan India.

Bengaluru South Deputy Director of School Education (DDSE) Bylanjanappa told *TNIE* that uniforms had been supplied as early as March. "The state government had supplied the first set of uniforms in February and March. However, there will be a second set supplied by Samagra Shikshana Karnataka (SSK) by August," he said.

NEP 2020 implementation

Last year, former school education and literacy minister B C Nagesh had reiterated several times that National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 would be implemented in schools in the academic year 2023-24.

In view of this, preparations had been made to implement the policy at the anganwadi level, with over 20,000 anganwadis proposed to receive training. In particular, implementation would be focused on the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) level. While policy implementation at that level did not include major changes to textbooks, it included a change in the teaching methods, with a gradual shift towards play learning and encouraging critical thinking.

However, this was met with criticism from the then opposition Congress. With the party having taken charge, it is unsure how this will affect implementation, especially due to the party's strong opposition to the policy and running the campaign 'Reject NEP'.

Bylanjanappa said that currently, there is no change in implementation of the policy in anganwadis. "Implementation will go on, as there has been no order to stop it or reverse any changes. We have been training anganwadi workers for the past few months to ensure they are well-versed with the policy. However, with the new government in place, this is likely to change due to their opposition to it. It might be subject to change soon; we will need to wait and see what happens," he said.

Similarly, new School Education Commissioner BB Cauvery stated that it was yet to be seen as to what changes would be implemented with the new government.

Textbook distribution

While textbook distribution has been a major cause for concern, with many students waiting until the end of the academic year to even see textbooks, this academic year, officials are confident that textbooks will reach students on time.

Karnataka Textbook Society (KTBS) Managing Director B S Raghuveer told TNIE that students will receive their textbooks on the day of reopening. "Currently, 100 per cent of the books have reached the taluk level. Around 80 per cent of these have reached the schools themselves, and within the next two days, it will touch 100 per cent. On the day of reopening, it will be up to the teachers to distribute textbooks to the students. There were no issues with distribution and if everything goes well, students will receive their textbooks on the first day of school," he said.

Cycle scheme at a halt

Cycle distribution has come to a sharp halt due to cost and misuse. While the bicycle scheme was implemented as early as 2007, the last three years have seen no free bicycles being issued to students. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the cycle scheme was stopped as students were not attending classes in person. However, with this year's budget not making a mention of the free bicycle scheme, it's safe to say the scheme will not see a resurgence this year as well.

Sources within the department attributed this to both the rising cost of bicycles, reducing viability of the scheme, as well as students misusing the cycles.

Provide justification if objecting to answer key: KEA officer to students

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

OBJECTIONS without justification will not be considered for the Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET) provisional keys, Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) Executive Director Ramya S has said.

KEA published the provisional answer keys for Karnataka Common Entrance Test 2023 on its website (http://kea.kar.nic). Candidates who wrote the exams will be able to access and cross reference answers for Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology papers. As many as 2.6 lakh students wrote the exams in the state on May 13 and 14.

In a press release, the officer stated that objections could be filed and submitted to KEA through the portal on its website. For this, candidates will need to justify the reason for the objection, and also indicate the subject name, version code and question number, in PDF format.

Candidates will also need to provide supporting documents for their objections, which have to be filed before 11am on May 30. If formatting is not proper, supporting documents are not attached or justification is not given, the objection would not be considered.

"The decision of the subject expert committee will be ultimate in finalising the answer key," she said.

For Architecture students

The executive director also stated that candidates who have achieved eligibility in National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) but failed to apply for Karnataka Common Entrance Test 2023, can apply through the KEA portal to gain admission for architecture courses through KEA. Applications will be open from 11am on June 1 to 11am on June 3.

"They should pay the fees before 2pm on June 3 to become eligible for admission to the Architecture course through KEA. It has been clarified that further extension of time will not be given. Candidates applying online on the above dates should enter their NATA score afterwards," Ramya stated.

Six of family killed after car collides with lorry in Koppal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Koppal

IN a gruesome accident, six people died on the spot and two other sustained injuries after a car collided head-on with a lorry near Kalakeri village of Kushtagi taluk in Koppal district on Sunday evening.

The victims are Rajappa Banagodi, Raghavendra Kamble, Akshay Shivasharan, Jayashree Kamble, Rakhi and Rashmika, who were travelling from Vijayapura to Bengaluru. The age of the victims are yet to be ascertained. However, Rakhi and Rashmika are minors.

Rescue personnel had a tough time in retrieving the bodies of the victims

According to initial reports, the accident occurred after one of the tyres of the car burst, resulting in the driver losing control of the vehicle, crossing the median and colliding with the lorry that was coming in the opposite direction.

Residents of the village rushed to the spot and helped the police in the rescue operation. The two injured passengers were rushed to Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences.

"The victims are all from Chadchan town in Vijayapur district. They all work in Bengaluru and had come to Chadchan to spend the weekend," a relative of the victims said.

"We were shocked to see the intensity of the accident... the car was completely crushed. The police struggled to retrieve the bodies," a resident of the village told *TNIE*.

ISRO to launch new generation navigation satellite today

CHENNAI: ISRO will launch its first in the second-generation navigation satellites using GSLV rocket on Monday. India is eyeing a big leap in providing real-time positioning and timing services over the country and a region extending 1,500km around the Indian mainland and this new satellite series with enhanced capabilities compared to its predecessors is considered a game-changer, especially to meet strategic needs. The second-generation navigation satellites will not only ensure continuity of legacy NavIC services, but also provide new service in L1 band and encompasses indigenously developed Rubidium atomic clock. The GSLV rocket carrying 2,332 kg satellite NVS-01 will lift-off from the second launch pad at 10.42am. **ENS**

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

Registered Office: A Wing, Unit No.511, Kanakia Wall Street, Andheri – Kurla Rd, Andheri East, Mumbai, Maharashtra – 400093

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE

NOTICE is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Authorised Officer of FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis, offers are invited to submit online through the Web Portal of our e-Auction Service Partner, M/s. C1 INDIA PVT.LTD. i.e. https://www.bankeauctions.com by the undersigned for sale of the immovable property of which particulars are given below and for detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Fedbank Financial Services Limited (FEDFINA) Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.fedfina.com & Link https://www.fedfina.com/public-notice-for-auction-cum-sale/ .

Description of Properties	All that piece and parcel of property bearing Eastern portion of Khaneshumari No. 41:28, measuring East to West 15 feet North to South 50 feet, total measuring 750 Sq.ft situated at Present Ward No. 36:41, Old No. 24 Byatarayanapura, Hosakere halli , Bangalore
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	Rs. 55,75,883/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Three Only)
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.) THROUGH DD/PO IN FAVOR OF 'FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED'	Rs. 5,57,589/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Fifty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Nine Only)
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS WITH SEALED OFFER/ TENDER WITH EMD	Till 16th June, 2023 latest by 05:00 P.M. at- Jelitta Towers, 21/1, 3rd Floor, Mission Road, Bangalore – 560016
DATE AND TIME, FOR OPENING OF BIDS	19th June, 2023 from 10 AM to 10:30 AM
INSPECTION OF PROPERTIES	13th June 2023 Before 5 PM
LAST DATE FOR PAYMENT OF 25% OF ACCEPTED HIGHEST BID FOR CONFIRMED SUCCESSFUL BIDDER (INCLUSIVE OF EMD)	The payment should be made latest by next working day from the date of bid confirmation
LAST DATE FOR PAYMENT OF BALANCE 75% OF HIGHEST BID	Within 15 days from the date of bid Confirmation
LOAN DETAILS	**Loan A/c No. FEDBNGLAP0476541** 1. Sri Rama Hospital (Borrower) 2. Mrs. Sarojamma (Co – Borrower & Deceased) 3. Mrs. Sujatha B (Co – Borrower & Legal Heir) 4. Mr. Raghavendra B (Co – Borrower & Legal Heir) 5. Mr. Shankar (Co – Borrower & Legal Heir) 6. Mrs. Biji Thomas (Co – Borrower)
Total Liabilities with further interest and other charges	Rs. 62,58,001/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand One Only) as on 15/05/2023

Important Terms & Conditions of Sale:

(1) The Auction is conducted as per the further Terms and Conditions of the Bid document and as per the procedure set out therein. Bidders may go through the website of our E-Auction Service Provider, M/s. C1 INDIA PVT.LTD. i.e. https://www.bankeauctions.com for bid documents, the details of the secured asset put up for e-Auction and the Bid Form which will be submitted online;

(2) All the intending purchasers / bidders are required to register their name in the Web Portal mentioned above as https://www.bankeauctions.com and generate their User ID and Password in free of cost of their own to participate in the e-Auction on the date and time aforesaid;

(3) For any enquiry, information, support, procedure and online training on e-Auction, the prospective bidders may contact Client Service Delivery (CSD) Department of our Sales & Marketing and e-Auction Service Partner M/s. C1 INDIA PVT.LTD., through E-mail ID: gujarat@c1india.com / support@bankeauctions.com or Authorised officer of Fedbank Financial Services Limited Mr. Bhaskar Reddy (Regional Collection Manager) Contact No. 9986160143 & Mr. Bharath Kumar A N (Area Collection Manager) Contact No. 968622280

(4) To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised officer, there is no encumbrance in the property / ies. However, the intending bidders may inspect the property and its documents as mentioned above or any other date & time with prior appointment and they should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrance, title of property/ies put on e-Auction and claims / right / dues / affecting the property prior to submitting their bid. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute any commitment or any representation of FEDFINA. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED. The Authorised officer / Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims / rights / dues;

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(6) The tenderers will not be entitled to claim any interest if the refund of EMD is delayed for any reason whatsoever.

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(8) If the dues of the FEDFINA together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by it or part thereof as may be acceptable to the FEDFINA are tendered by or on behalf of the borrower or guarantor(s) at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer of the secured assets, the secured asset(s) /immovable property (ies) in question shall not be sold or transferred. The tenderers will not be entitled to claim any interest on the amount already paid to the FEDFINA.

(9) For participating in the e-Auction, intending purchasers/bidders will have to submit / upload in the Web Portal https://www.bankeauctions.com the details of payment of interest-free refundable Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the secured asset as mentioned above by way of Demand Draft in favour of 'FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED' payable at Mumbai along with self-attested copies of the PAN Card, Aadhaar Card, Residence Address Proof, Board Resolutions in case of company and Address Proof as specified above. The Borrower (s) / Mortgager(s) / Guarantor(s) are hereby given STATUTORY 15 DAYS NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) & 9 (1) OF THE SARFAESI ACT to discharge the liability in full and pay the dues as mentioned above along with upto date interest and expenses within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which the Secured Asset will be sold as per the terms and conditions mentioned above. In case there is any discrepancy between the publications of sale notice in English and Vernacular newspaper, then in such case the English newspaper will supersede the vernacular newspaper and it shall be considered as the final copy, thus removing the ambiguity. If the borrower / guarantors / mortgagers pays the amount due to FEDFINA, in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped. -- For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, kindly visit our official website & Link www.fedfina.com & https://www.fedfina.com/public-notice-for-auction-cum-sale/ or contact the Authorised Officer Mr.Bhaskar Reddy (Regional Collection Manager) Contact No. 9986160143 Email Id: bhaskar.reddy@fedfina.com & Mr. Bharath Kumar A N (Area Collection Manager) Contact No. 968622280 Email Id: bharathkumar.an@fedfina.com of the Fedbank Financial Services Limited

Special Instruction: - e-Auction shall be conducted by our Service Provider, M/s. C1 INDIA PVT.LTD. on behalf of Fedbank Financial Services Limited (FEDFINA), on pre-specified date, while the bidders shall be quoting from their own home / offices / place of their Bid as per their choice above the Reserve Price. Internet connectivity and other paraphernalia requirements shall have to be ensured by bidders themselves. Please note that failure of Internet connectivity (due to any reason whatsoever it may be) shall be sole responsibility of bidders and neither FEDFINA nor M/s. C1 INDIA PVT.LTD., shall be responsible for these unforeseen circumstances. In order to ward-off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements / alternatives whatever required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and still be able to participate in the e-Auction successfully. However, it is requested to the Bidder(s) not to wait till the last moment to quote/improve his / her Bid to avoid any such complex situations.

Date: 29.05.2023
Place: Bangalore

Authorized officer
For Fedbank Financial Services Limited

UNIQUE FIND

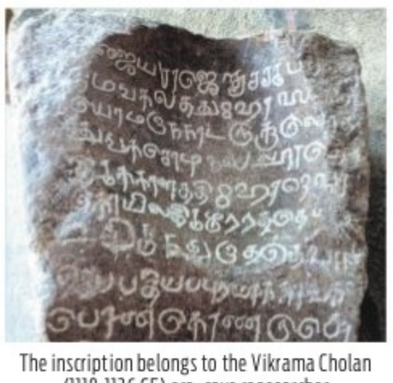
12th Century Chola inscription unearthed in TN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Thanjavur

A 12TH century Chola inscription on granite that was found partially-buried near the second entrance of the Abathsagayeswarar temple in Thukkachi village near Kumbakonam was reclaimed and placed in the temple mandapam.

The slab was spotted by A Gopinath, founder-secretary of Kumbakonam Regional History Research Association, during a recent visit to the temple, which is currently undergoing restoration work. Upon spotting inscriptions on the portion of the slab that was visible, he arranged to have the slab reclaimed with the help of the local population.

Speaking to *TNIE*, Gopinath said the inscription was that of Vikrama Cholan (1118-1136 CE), and that it was made during the fourth year of his reign. The inscription speaks about land donated by the village council of Vijayarajendra Chaturvedimangalam (present-day Thukkachi), to the temple at Kulothunga Chola Nallur village for chanting Devaram. Kulothunga Chola Nallur village, he said comprised parts of Thukkachi and neighbouring Koohur village.



The inscription belongs to the Vikrama Cholan (1118-1136 CE) era, says reasearcher

Gopinath further added that while looking into the Annual Reports of Indian Epigraphy, it was found out that the inscription was already deciphered in 1918 but was neglected.

The slab was placed in the temple's Maha Mandapam on May 26 and will need to be displayed at the Tiruchutru Maligai so that visitors to the temple can see it, said Gopinath. He also mentioned the epigraphy reports as saying there were ten inscriptions in the temple. Apart from the reclaimed slab, another one has been found in the temple walls. The whereabouts of the remaining inscriptions are yet to be known, he added.

EDITORIAL

Mystery creates wonder and wonder is the basis of man's desire to understand

Neil Armstrong

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

TESTING TIME FOR TURKIYE'S DEMOCRACY IN PRESIDENTIAL RUNOFF

If an uncharismatic candidate emerges a close second in a high-voltage presidential race with the incumbent despite the latter having the entire state apparatus under his thumb, it cannot but be called commendable. Turkiye's Kemal Kilicdaroglu gave President Recep Tayyip Erdogan a scare in the May 14 general elections, forcing the first-ever runoff in the nation's history. Kilicdaroglu polled 44.9% votes, dragging Erdogan away from the winning threshold of 50% by a wafer thin margin of 0.5%. Polling for the first runoff started this Sunday amid a wave of nationalism. Caught in the crosshairs are over 3.6 million Syrian refugees whom no one seems to want. Even the soft-spoken Kilicdaroglu has turned quite strident against the refugees in his quest to expand his voter base. Both sides have vowed to drive all of them back into Syria.

That Erdogan managed to limit the impact of anti-incumbency—despite a massive earthquake in February which left at least 50,000 dead and the extremely high cost of living due to an estimated 44% inflation—is a testament to his vice-like grip on the state machinery. He has captured almost all public institutions, including the judiciary and the body that conducts elections. Besides, his control on the mainstream media is total. He got as much as 32 hours of airtime on mass media when campaigning was at its peak in April as against his challenger's measly 32 minutes. The president is also known to employ dirty tricks to eliminate his rivals one way or the other. As for Kilicdaroglu, he has survived multiple assassination attempts over the years, making him one of the most targeted politicians in the country. He had to put on a bullet-proof vest during the last stages of his public rallies ahead of the May 14 polls.

Even if Kilicdaroglu wins the race, he will be hobbled by Ergodan's coalition as it already controls Parliament with 322 seats in the 600-member House. Electoral compulsions may have made Kilicdaroglu shrill but he is essentially a cool guy who listens to all and was not known to raise his voice till recently. That and some physical resemblance to the Mahatma earned him the sobriquet of Gandhi Kemal. Ergodan was sharply anti-India but softened a tad after a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Samarkand last year. It's up to Turkiye's polity to decide whether they want restoration of democratic values.

GOVT REPORT CARD: AMID PR, DON'T FORGET FACTS

As the Narendra Modi government completes nine years in power and plans big celebrations flaunting carefully chosen data, many pressing economic issues remain hidden behind these numbers. The booklet issued to commemorate the Central government's tenure highlights, among other things, India's improved Ease of Doing Business ranking, super growth in its digital and physical infrastructure, record exports, and FDI. It also mentions many structural reforms—like DBT, IBC and GST—undertaken by the government to put the nation on the path of unbridled growth.

One cannot blame the government for selectively highlighting numbers that paint a rosy picture, as any government would like to overplay successes and underplay failures. However, a good analyst should not get easily impressed by such a golden façade. Rather, this report card should be critically assessed. It should not be allowed to get away with blinding people through its publicity blitzkrieg. As the government pushes for a Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047, it should be made aware of the ground realities. Vis-à-vis per capita GDP, India is more or less on par with the likes of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mauritania. Even Bangladesh surpasses us by a few notches. While there is an unending debate over the number of poor in India, many studies suggest it is still in the range of 20–25%. Inequality remains high, with only 10% of the workforce earning a salary of ₹25,000 or more. Access to quality healthcare and education still remains a distant dream for a majority of the country's population.

When economic indicators like manufacturing, exports and gross capital formation are taken as a percentage of GDP (at current price), they are still below the levels achieved between 2008–2014. Manufacturing value addition as a percentage of GDP likely fell below 14% in FY23. Exports as a percentage of GDP is 22%, which is below the 25–26% achieved between 2010–11 and 2013–14. The gross fixed capital formation (which measures investments in creating assets) stood at 29% of GDP in FY23, compared with the high of 36% in FY08.

Sometimes absolute numbers (like $770 billion worth of exports) may not give the correct picture unless seen in the right context. The fact remains that India is a lower-middle-income country, and its per capita income needs to be six times of what it is today to become a developed nation by 2047.

QUICK TAKE

LANDLOCKED LIGHTHOUSE

The Centre has long eyed the country's nearly 200 lighthouses as tourism drivers and has ambitious plans afoot to develop them as tourist hotspots. Many new ones are in the pipeline. But a lighthouse in landlocked Delhi, on the mostly dry Yamuna floodplains? The National Green Tribunal has recently okayed one adjacent to the plains in the greenway for extra surveillance and security. Precisely how it will do the job is unclear. An established apparatus, including the Tribunal, already exists to protect the floodplain zone from encroachment, the only threat. And any construction in this area violates the spirit of the law.

The reckless endorsement of *The Kerala Story* by high constitutional authorities tends to impact our polity in a way that destroys social equanimity

THE KERALA STORY: DIVISIVE AGENDAS IN GUISE OF FREE SPEECH

KAPIL SIBAL

Senior lawyer and Member of Rajya Sabha. As Counsel in the Supreme Court, he opposed screening of *The Kerala Story*

SOUMYADIP SINHA

The printed word, as an art form, is far less effective than moving images, which are emotive and a feast for the eyes. Stories, both fact and fiction, often reflect conversations that evoke and stay etched in impressionable minds. Moving images may be screened with the intent to inform, to tell a story not so far told, or to weave a story around fiction, to deceive, indoctrinate or perhaps use the art form as a propaganda tool. All this, in the name of free speech, a fundamental right protected by the Constitution; although no right, including free speech, is absolute.

With the screening of the *Kashmir Files* and *The Kerala Story*, this art form is exploited for ends which have little to do with art and more to do with ideological indoctrination. The timing of such releases just before or in the midst of an election raises questions that need to be answered.

The Kerala Story, released just before Karnataka went to the polls, portrays the plight of Hindu and Christian women in Kerala being allured to embrace Islam and thereafter join the ISIS. The narrative is such that it is likely to evoke emotions and breed hatred towards a community which is seen as conspiring to convert women for serving the cause of terrorists.

The producers claimed, and this was also included in the teaser, that 32,000 women in Kerala were the victims of such conversions. When challenged in the Kerala High Court, the makers of the film readily agreed to remove the teaser but asserted that it is a true story of three women who, from different parts of Kerala, had converted. The Kerala High Court, without even seeing the contents of the film to ascertain what it seeks to propagate, refused to pass an interim order against its screening.

The judiciary should be extra cautious when a film, allegedly fictional, propagates a communally divisive agenda, especially in the context of an impending election. As a first step, judges should see the film to assess for themselves the nature and quality of its content. Any other process would be unfair from the standpoint of fair play. After all, the right to free speech is not absolute.

Even though it is a fundamental right, it is subject to reasonable restrictions, namely, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign countries, public order, decency and morality, contempt of court, defamation, incitement to an offence, and sovereignty and integrity of India.

A judge who has not seen the film, in all fairness, should not pass an order one way or the other. If a film is screened without seeing its content, it could cause incalculable harm; the damage would have been done by the time the challenge to its screening is heard on merits. I say this because some of the scenes and dialogues in the film are inherently and intentionally divisive and abhorrent. I refer hereunder to some of these scenes and dialogues:

In one scene, Muslim clerics and Muslim men talk about luring Hindu women, converting them and convincing them to go to Syria for jihad. "If necessary, impregnate them," they are heard saying.

In another scene, the father of one of the main characters in the film, Gitanjali, suffers from a heart attack after seeing her wearing a hijab. Asifa Ba, another character, is seen asking Gitanjali to visit her father in the hospital saying that her father is a non-believer and "a non-believer's sin will not end till the time you don't spit on him". The film then shows Gitanjali spitting on her father.

Prime Minister Modi, in his electoral speech at Bellary, alluded to the changing nature of terrorism, which, he said, *The Kerala Story* highlighted, being based on one such terrorist conspiracy in Kerala. This statement by the Prime Minister, during the course of an election, assumes significance for two reasons. One, it endorses fiction as fact, for these events never happened. Two, it attempts to, for political gain, exploit the divisiveness inherent in the story. The statement of the Prime Minister may encourage thousands of young minds to go and watch the film believing its contents to be true.

Such films are not an art form but pure propaganda. They are part of a narrative which pitches 'us' against 'them'—an emotive polarisation which is at the heart of the BJP's political strategy, both in state elections and in the run up to the Lok Sabha elections in 2024.

The reckless endorsement of *The Kerala Story* by high constitutional authorities tends to impact our polity in a way that destroys social equanimity. The real issues affecting the people like massive unemployment, poverty, hunger, price rise and the daily travails of living are sidelined. It is the proverbial 'us' versus 'them' which helps ensure electoral outcomes for those who exploit the 'us' against 'them'.

The matter eventually reached the Supreme Court. During the course of the hearing, the attention of the court was drawn to some of the transcribed dialogues in the film. The court, while deciding to hear the matter in July 2023, asked the film producer to screen a disclaimer that the film is a fictionalised account, not backed by any authentic data with respect to allegations of mass conversion or for that matter, any other established figure of conversion of 32,000 women.

To further exploit the so-called art form, a minister of this government went to the extent of saying that those who oppose this film are supporting ISIS.

To me, this statement reflects an intent to harm. Unfortunately, the ruling class swears by it. The producers now admit it is fiction. And those who oppose are supporters of ISIS!

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @KapilSibal)

THE CURIOUS CASE OF RAVANA'S MOTHER

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

Do you too wonder sometimes about what became of the minor characters in the epics? I was particularly intrigued by the fate of Ravana's mother, Kaikesi. Her story is mentioned by Valmiki in the *Yuddha Kandam* of the *Srimad Ramayanam* and in the later addition to his work called the *Uttara Kandam* by an unknown person. Kaikesi is called Nikasha in the Bengali *Ramayana* of Krittibas Ojha (1381–1461). Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa narrated a brief parable about her in the 19th century. Her name hardly comes up in discourse but this retelling is an attempt to talk more about her:

When they brought Ravana's body home to the palace from the battlefield, a great wail went up in the women's quarters, led by his queens Mandodari and Dhanyamalini. In the commotion, nobody noticed that Nikasha, the old queen, slipped out of the palace and began to make her way to the hills outside the city.

"Halt!" A troop of *Vanara* soldiers suddenly blocked Nikasha's path. "Who are you and where are you running away to? Come with us to Rama," they said and marched Nikasha off to the battlefield where Rama and Lakshmana sat with Ravana's brother Vibhishana.

"Mother! What are you doing here?" exclaimed Vibhishana and went forward to bring her to Rama.

Lakshmana looked at Nikasha in surprise. Dropping his voice, he said to Rama, "Look at this old woman. She has lost her sons and grandsons, but she's running away because she wants to live longer even now."

"Lakshmana, be respectful. Let us hear what she has to say," said Rama. The brothers stood up to receive Nikasha. Rama looked at her silently.

She was of medium height and slender build. Her silky white hair was elegantly arranged and her clothes were in muted good taste. She had beautiful cheekbones and delicate hands and feet. So this was Ravana's mother. Rama could not relate this proud, slim woman to bull-like Ravana and outsize Kumbhakarna. And then he looked at Nikasha's eyes. They burned black with an inner fire.

"Queen Mother, I apologise for my soldiers. Please do not be afraid. You are perfectly safe and so are your daughters-in-law and palace women. I entrust you to Vibhishana's care," said Rama gently.

Nikasha looked back at him and inclined her head regally.

"Queen Mother, what made you leave the palace and set off on your own?" asked Rama.

Nikasha hesitated at first but found her voice. "Rama, I thank you for your care. But you will not believe why I ran away," she said in a sweet, low voice—the voice of the seductress who had trapped the noble rishi Vishravas in marriage as a young woman, directed by her exiled demon king father Sumali and her shrewd mother Ketumati.

PRAVIKUMAR

> Lakshmana looked at Nikasha in surprise. Dropping his voice, he said to Rama, "Look at this old woman. She has lost her sons and grandsons, but she's running away because she wants to live longer even now."

"Tell me, Mother."

"Rama, if I had wished, I too could have drowned in sorrow at the death of my sons and grandsons. And I was furious that Lakshmana disfigured my daughter Surpanakha. But when I heard the full story, the right and wrong of it became clear to me. If she had not charged at Sita to kill her, Lakshmana would not have drawn his sword on her. He spared her life.

Later, I pleaded with Ravana, as did Vibhishana, to return Sita to you and save Lanka from calamity. But he would not listen. Vibhishana, being a man, could leave the palace, fly over the sea and come to you. It was I who advised him to seek refuge in you after Ravana humiliated him for urging Sita's return. But how could I go, Rama?"

"I understand, Mother. But why did you leave now?"

"Rama, I marvel at you. You gave up everything. And your wife stayed loyal to you despite every threat and every temptation. I wanted to live longer to see what else you would do."

Lakshmana could not help but let out a snort of disbelief. After Kaikeyi, he did not trust senior queens, especially the mother of Ravana. But Rama flung up his hand to stop him. "Mother, we will stay in touch. Please return to the palace now and live peacefully in Vibhishana's care."

Nikasha was led away by the guards. She almost hated herself for admiring Rama. But she could not deny that Rama was the better person. Nikasha's grief was made worse by shame that she had failed to bring up Ravana correctly.

Rama was the first man she fully respected. How could she atone for her mistakes and win his respect? Nothing, she realised, would change her unhappy life unless she took positive steps. She would wait until after Vibhishana's coronation to put her plans to work.

Mindful of Rama's words, Vibhishana entrusted the women's quarters to Nikasha's care. The Queen Mother held morning meetings every day with her daughters-in-law. She gave each one a project to undertake for the welfare of Lanka's battered subjects. She made trips to the countryside to gather news so that Vibhishana could take appropriate action where needed.

Unknown to anyone, she dedicated everything she did to Rama. This gave her charitable work an inner focus and a sense of reparation for the havoc wreaked by Ravana on his people. The years rolled by and Nikasha lived for the times when messengers came to Lanka bearing greetings and gifts from faraway Ayodhya.

One day the shattering news arrived that Rama had taken *jalasamadhi*, death by drowning, in the River Sarayu. Nikasha went very quiet when told of it by a weeping Vibhishana. "O Rama, my life came out of its darkness because of you," she mourned. "I have no wish to live now. Who will cure me of this grief? I will live on till my time comes, thinking of you."

Nikasha resolutely passed her remaining years in engagement, not seclusion, chanting Rama's name daily. In this quiet way, she made peace with her existence and lived a life of dignity and service until she too died one day, taking Rama's name with her last breath.

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Inauguration speech

What a great speech PM Modi delivered at the inauguration of the new Parliament building! He even briefly covered how Mahatma Gandhi took the reins of the freedom struggle. With this building, one more heavy symbol of colonialism has been done away with.
Athulya M, Hyderabad

Wrestlers' demands

The wrestlers' demands should be considered by the Centre immediately. FIRs registered. Complaints filed. Accused not arrested. The protesting wrestlers were reportedly dragged by the police. It is shameful how the government treats international wrestlers.
S N Amrith, Puttur

Kerala Story

Kamal Hassan said he is against propaganda films like *The Kerala Story*. But just because a film is unpalatable to some people, it cannot be banned. It is the responsibility of state governments to ensure the screening of films.
K S Sundaram, email

Junk culture

Apropos of *Leaving junk food market unregulated is making us a sick nation* (May 28). In the 60s, tobacco was the villain. Realising its effects, authorities made it mandatory to print a health warning on each packet. They must regulate the junk food industry by making ads about its ill effects.
Jayaraman CP, Chalakudi

Lawmakers' behaviour

Apropos of *Embracing modernity, honouring heritage* (May 28). While the authors are justified in extolling the new Parliament building for its state-of-the-art facilities, one feels saddened by lawmakers wasting the taxpayers' money by shouting and staging walkouts. Grand structures alone don't make for the ethos of democracy. We should make space for dissenting voices and an unassailable commitment to public probity.
S Balu, Madurai

The Sengol

The pride of the past shows the way for a progressive future. It is a momentous occasion that the Sengol has been given its place in the new building by PM Modi. The visionary feels proud to combine tradition with modernity.
Jitendranath Guru, Padampur

People's building

It's a historic event in Indian democracy that an ultra-modern, digitally equipped and spacious Parliament building was inaugurated by the PM. It is not the property of the BJP, Modi or the opposition parties but the people's building as it is funded by taxpayers' money. By avoiding the programme, opposition parties gave BJP a weapon to use against them as elections are not far away.
J P Reddy, Nalgonda

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Mamata Banerjee @MamataOfficial
Condemn the way Delhi Police manhandled Sakshi Malik, Vinesh Phogat and other wrestlers. It's shameful our champions are treated in this manner

D Raja @ComradeDRaja
India fought the British, won the Republic and resolved to create a secular, democratic republic. Modi is trying to turn Parliament into a medieval court

Chandra Shekhar @BhimArmyChief
The one who was supposed to be caught and put in jail is roaming free. Those whose honor was to be protected are being dragged on the streets of Delhi

A temple of democracy to build a new India

BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
Former Karnataka Chief Minister

MAN is a social animal and cannot survive in isolation. Thousands of years ago, human beings grouped to create a city, built a society and then started living in the state. Decisions that changed the lives of people happened all over the world through religious institutions and thereafter via the state essence. The determinants of human life have evolved in various forms, starting with religious institutions, followed by state power, and eventually encompassing global institutions.

However, the emergence of democratic institutions marked a significant event in India's history, beginning in the 12th century with the establishment of the 'Anubhava Mantapa.' The concept of democratic governance originated in ancient Rome in Western countries. These democratic institutions do not possess absolute authority but serve as platforms for expressing people's opinions.

In 1215, the Magna Carta was established in Britain under the leadership of King John. It defined the rights and responsibilities of both the king and the subjects. After India became a republic on January 26, 1950, we all accepted the Indian Constitution. Our Indian Constitution is one of the largest and encompasses the aspirations of diverse castes, religions, and cultures. It recognizes the rights and duties of citizens and establishes a federal system that acknowledges the existence of both the central and state governments.

India is a republic, and the words spoken by the late former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee hold great significance. Governments come and go; political parties emerge and fade away. However, the essence of India and its democratic governance must remain constant. With this vision, the People's Sovereignty Foundation was established.

During the drafting of the Indian Constitution, the Constituent Assembly, led by Dr BR Ambedkar as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, wrote the masterpiece of Indian democracy. All these activities took place in side Parliament of India. Thus, we believe that Parliament represents the stronghold of Indian democracy.

The Indian Parliament plays a pivotal role in the lives of every individual. Our rights, services, and duties are determined through its activities. The Parliament provides a platform for us to voice our opinions and concerns, and it is our responsibility to actively participate in its functioning. The Parliament is the embodiment of the collective will of the people and the guardian of our democratic values.

PARLIAMENT PROVIDES A PLATFORM FOR US TO VOICE OUR OPINIONS, AND IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN ITS FUNCTIONING. PARLIAMENT IS THE EMBODIMENT OF THE COLLECTIVE WILL OF THE PEOPLE AND THE GUARDIAN OF OUR DEMOCRATIC VALUES

Today, our Prime Minister Narendra Modi with immense experience in both the state and central governments, possesses a complete understanding of our country and envisions a new India. Recognizing the need for a new system in the construction of this vision, the new parliament is inaugurated today, which holds tremendous significance in India's democracy. Being the most populous and one of the largest democratic nations in the world, India needs an increased number of representatives to effectively reflect the diversity of its various castes, cultures, and communities. Furthermore, to emerge as a strong economic powerhouse globally, India requires decisive policies and systematic infrastructure development.

To build the future of modern India, discussions on crucial matters should take place here:

- Resolving numerous challenges that India faces and establishing decisive strategies.
- India must become economically robust and make significant contributions on the global stage.
- Ensuring equitable and comprehensive development across all sections of society.
- Every citizen should have a crucial role and commitment towards the construction of new India.
- Transparent and efficient governance practices utilizing modern technology should prevail in the country.
- Individual freedom and social conduct should be guaranteed for every citizen.
- Governance should be based on the constitution and the rule of law.
- Access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities should be continuously available for every individual
- These are the key aspects for the creation of a new India, and it is important to focus on them for the overall development and progress of the nation.
- The new India, with its new youth power, new thinking, and new dreams, is being realized under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who embodies determination, foresight, patriotism, and democratic ideals. On this occasion, I extend my heartfelt greetings and special congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the architect of new India, who will remain a prominent figure in the history of India's democracy.
- In such a significant moment, the opposition parties that boycott, the anti-democratic forces, and those opposing the future of the country are all excluded. In this context, the entire nation and all political parties come together, setting an example for the younger generation. The opposition's rejection is merely a reflection of narrow-minded politics and self-centered interests.

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
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G20 Summit

SHERPA SEEKS EXTENSION OF TERM FOR SECRETARIES

G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant has requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to consider giving six-month extension to the secretaries of the Government of India who are engaged in preparations for the summit. Twenty-one ministries of the Union government are engaged in the G20 work. Officials from these ministries are part of the working groups through the Sherpa Track and are busy preparing the agenda for the summit. Secretaries in these ministries play a pivotal role in putting together the G20 agenda in consultation with other members. But some of the key secretaries, including those from the departments of health and family welfare, tourism, etc, are set to retire before the head of states arrive for the summit in September. Sources said that the Prime Minister would most likely approve the Sherpa's request. India assumed the G20 presidency on December 1, 2022 and will steer this international body until November 30, 2023.

Election 2024

BJP NOT TO JOIN HANDS WITH AKALIS, OPEN TO TDP

Buoyed by its unexpected performance in the Jallandhar Lok Sabha bye-election, the BJP leadership has decided to accept the demand by its Punjab unit and the new entrants into the party, Captain Amarinder Singh and others, to fight the next election without joining hands with its old ally, the Akali Dal. The party contested the Lok Sabha bye-election without alliance and polled 1.37 lakh votes, which is much more than what the leadership had expected. This has strengthened the go-it-alone lobby in the party. Besides, Amarinder and others have been asking the party to build its base across the state rather than depending on an ally. A top leader of the party said that so long as the party contested the state elections in alliance with the Akalis it remained confined to 23 seats. But in the last election, it was able to contest in 73 assembly constituencies. It now wants to improve its presence in the state where the Congress rout provides it space for expansion. The party is, however, keen to tie up with Chandrababu Naidu's Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in Andhra Pradesh. Sources said that the two parties are already in touch.

Battle of Rajasthan

GEHLOT COLD TO HIGH COMMAND'S TRUCE FORMULA

Rajasthan chief minister Ashok Gehlot is reluctant to accept the party high command's formula to settle his dispute with his former deputy Sachin Pilot. The party leadership had proposed appointment of Pilot as Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president in place of Govind Singh Dotasra, and a deputy chief minister from the Jat community. Sources said Gehlot is not ready to give the important post of PCC chief to Pilot. He has argued that as the PCC chief, Pilot may create trouble in allotment of tickets to party loyalists who had refused to side with him when he had walked out with a bunch of party MLAs seeking change of chief minister. The chief minister also did not attend a meeting in Delhi called by party president Mallikarjun Kharge. Sources said the party leadership is in touch with Gehlot and Pilot and is keen to bring them together before the assembly elections due in December this year.

After K'taka poll debacle, PM meets BJP CMs to take stock of situation

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @New Delhi

IN his first political meet after the poll debacle in Karnataka, PM Narendra Modi on Sunday attended the meeting with the chief ministers of BJP-ruled states on development and good governance agendas at the party headquarters.

Soon after unveiling the new Parliament house with much fanfare, the PM reached the party headquarter and discussed the performances of his aprty-rule states in several schemes and other issues. Sources in BJP said that the CMs of BJP ruled states including poll bound MP, presented their report cards on good governance and developments and progress of ongoing schemes of welfare for the poor.

"Prime Minister asked those (CMs) to take the schemes of welfare to the poor and make them ware of these schemes through various modes of easy communication like interactions and 'jan-abhiyana' also", said a senior BJP functionary.

At the meeting after development and good governance agendas, a wider discussion was also made on the preparations of upcoming LS elections in 2024 in the back drop of recent Karnataka debacle and other emerged political situations.

This newspaper is learnt that discssuion on successful conduct of a month-long special contact abhiyan starting from May 30 to June 30 across the country covering all LS constituencies also held.

"Under the part of this well crafted stargey, the PM and other senior leaders of party including union ministers are scheduled to address dozens of public rallies across the country with more focus in poll bound states like Rajashthan and Telangana where the BJP is leaving no stone unturned to wrest the power," said a BJP functionary.

The BJP CMs are learnt to have discussed over the people-centric schemes and their effective implementation in view of the upcoming LS elections.

India yet to name Doha envoy; Naval officers' fate uncertain

YESHI SELI @New Delhi

IT has been nearly two months since the position of Indian ambassador in Doha has been lying vacant. The previous ambassador to Doha, Dipak Mittal, returned to India in March and has joined the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). It is learnt that joint secretary (Gulf) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Vipul was his likely replacement. But no formal announcement has come from the MEA yet.

"It's the next of kin of the eight naval veterans who have been under solitary confinement in Doha since August 31, 2022, who have been feeling completely helpless without an Indian ambassador.

"It becomes difficult to access information about our men in Doha. With charges having been framed and the case being tried against these eight veterans under the Qatari law, our anxiety has increased and we do not have a go-to person to understand what lies ahead," said a source.

Indian embassy in Doha

Meanwhile, the naval veterans continue to call up home every week. The past few conversations that they've had indicated that their patience is wearing off as they feel tortured and threatened while under confinement.

The conversations we have had with our men in Doha are brief and are monitored by the Qatari authorities. As a result, we have not been able to have an open conversation with them since they were detained. They have always maintained that they are innocent and the charges leveled against them are baseless, sources said.

Meanwhile, wives of some of the naval veterans have been in Doha for a few weeks now. They have been allowed in-person meetings with their husbands but the conversation is formal as it is always monitored by the Doha authorities.

With the eight naval veterans having lost their jobs, there is no money that is going to the families now, as a result of which the women who are in Doha are facing tremendous challenges to survive on their own as they reel under uncertainty of what the next hearing (which will be in June) could hold for them.

Those charged are Capt Navtej Singh Gill, Capt Birendra Kumar Verma, Capt Saurabh Vasisht, Cdr Amit Nagpal, Cdr Purnendu Tiwari, Cdr Sugunakar Pakala, Cdr Sanjeev Gupta and sailor Ragesh.

The charges against them have not officially been revealed, although reports suggest they are accused of spying for Israel about Qatar's sensitive project to build Italian technology-based midget submarines with stealth characteristics, media reports said.

Petition against e-pharmas for 'violating norms'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD), a powerful body representing approximately 12.40 lakh chemists and distributors in India, has written to the cabinet secretary urging him to intervene and ban online pharmacies stating that they are violating norms and putting people's lives at risk.

Citing the Delhi High Court order of 2018, which issued injunction to e-pharmacies from online sale of medicines without license and directed that such sales were prohibited until further order, the letter said that "they continue to operate despite court orders.

"The illegally operating e-pharmacies are still in operation after more than 4.5 years," the letter read.

The AIOCD also said that though the Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who also holds the Chemicals and Fertilizers ministry portfolio also, took the initiative and issued show cause notices to these illegal e-pharmacies by the DCGI, no action has been taken against them since the issuance of the notices.

The letter, signed by president J S Shinde and honorary general secretary Rajiv Singhal, said that they also brought an affidavit filed by the joint drug controller in 2020, which stated that "there is currently no provision under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for online pharmacies.

"The issue of online sale of drugs was under the consideration of the government," the letter said, adding that this submission by the CDSCO clearly indicates that there is no licence for the online sale of drugs. "Therefore, in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, online sales of medicines should be immediately ceased," the letter added.

However, a recent status report on e-pharmacies submitted by the CDSCO on the orders of the Delhi High Court reveals that there are no provisions in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules 1945 that restrict the shipping, mailing, or door delivery of prescribed medicines.

"This submission contradicts the earlier affidavit filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and raises concerns about the well-being of our citizens. We remain hopeful and have faith in our elected government and senior bureaucrats that they will uphold the laws of the land and protect public health," they added.

"We kindly request your intervention and urgent action to ensure the implementation of court orders and the cessation of illegal operations by e-pharmacies," they urged the cabinet secretary and called for immediate and stringent action by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) and State Food and Drug Administrations (FDA) against illegal online pharmacies.

The government in February pulled up at least 20 companies, including Tata-1mg, Flipkart, Apollo, PharmEasy, Amazon and Reliance Netmeds, by issuing them a show-cause notice, for selling medicines online.

The action was taken after AIOCD threatened to launch a country-wide agitation if the government didn't act.

APPEAL SENT TO CABINET SECY

- Currently no provision under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for online pharmacies
- No licence for the online sale of drugs, says CDSCO
- In February, Centre pulled up 20 companies by issuing them with a show-cause notice for selling medicines online
- In 2018, Delhi HC issued injunction to e-pharmacies from online sale of medicines without licence

> **The issue of online sale of drugs was under the consideration of the government,**
>
> All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists

Mapping of major tourist destinations for PM Gati Shakti scheme implementation

PARVEZ SULTAN @New Delhi

FOR smooth implementation of its initiative under Prime Minister (PM) Gati Shakti programme, the ministry of tourism will do mapping of all major tourist destinations and attractions. The mapping details and all the relevant information such as availability of accommodation and transit hubs around the tourist sites will be added to Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) for which the ministry will set up a dedicated division—Gati Shakti Cell. The efforts will be made to ensure standardisation, revalidation, cleaning and rationalisation of the data are uploaded on the NMP portal, which is for seamless collaboration with other departments, states and UTs .

The ministry is in the process of formulation of the Cell and will appoint a Technical Support Unit (TSU), a professional agency, to harness the potential of the Gati Shakti portal for the overall development of the Tourism sector.

The tourism ministry will use data uploaded on the portal in its decision-making process and to better visualise, review and monitor the progress of cross-sectoral projects and growth of the tourism sector through the GIS platform.

The Unit will prepare 'Tourism NMP Strategy' covering the broad topics of strategy and action plan for Integration and mapping of major Tourist destinations. It will also coordinate with stakeholders such as state governments, union territories, Central ministries, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG) is a national agency of Gujarat government to provide services and solutions in implementing map-based GeoSpatial Information Systems.

The mapping of tourist destinations will involve delineation of the destination's impact area using administrative and physical boundaries encompassing tourist attractions, accommodation units, major transit hubs--entry and exit points.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched PM Gati Shakti NMP in October 2021 for multimodal connectivity infrastructure to various economic zones. It is a digital platform to bring 16 ministries together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects.

MISSION TOURISM

The mapping:
Tourist destinations will involve delineation of the destination's impact area using administrative and physical boundaries encompassing tourist attractions, accommodation units, major transit hubs — entry and exit points

Tourism NMP Strategy:
Will cover broad topics of strategy and action plan for integration and mapping of major destinations

Gati Shakti data will be used in:
- Decision-making
- To better visualise, review and monitor progress of cross-sectoral projects
- Analyse growth of tourism sector

PROTEST OVER PICTURE

A government school in Jharkhand's Ramgarh district, which had put up a picture of Pakistani activist and Nobel peace prize winner Malala Yousafzai to motivate girl students, removed it following protests.

02 LEOPARDS ELECTROCUTED IN RAJASTHAN'S DHOLPUR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	39	28	Mumbai	35	29
Bhopal	38	25	Panaji	33	29
Jaipur	32	22	Patna	39	28
Amritsar	35	21	Lucknow	37	26
Chennai	37	29	Port Blair	32	28
Kolkata	39	28	Imphal	35	19
Srinagar	24	11	Chandigarh	33	22

Kharge calls Gehlot, Pilot to Delhi

Ahead of assembly polls, Congress hopes to secure a truce between the bitter adversaries

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

IN a bid to resolve the rift between Rajasthan Chief Minister **Ashok Gehlot** and his former deputy **Sachin Pilot**, the Congress high command has summoned both for separate meetings with party president **Mallikarjun Kharge** on Monday.

A few days ago, the meeting scheduled on Friday could not be held because Gehlot had apparently fallen ill. The Congress now hopes that the long-standing feud can be solved by Kharge holding talks with the two leaders.

Sources said the Congress chief has instructed the state in-charge and co-in-charges of Rajasthan to remain in Delhi on Monday and Tuesday. From the central side, Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, and state in-charge Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa will participate in talks. From the state side, party chief Govind Dotasara, Gehlot, and Pilot may attend the meeting.

Flush with the Karnataka victory, the top central leadership of the party does not want to leave any stone unturned to capitalise on the situation. At stake are elections in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh, which are due later this year. Political analysts believe that the party high command is not as confident about Rajasthan as it is about Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. This lack of confidence stems from the desert state's tradition of changing power after every state election. Another key factor is the rivalry between the two main pillars of the party in the state, Gehlot and Pilot.

It is believed that the Delhi meeting may provide an opportunity to find a formula for reconciliation between the two leaders. However, based on recent developments, the prospects of peace seem slim. Despite strict instructions, Pilot has given an ultimatum to the government of his own party, setting a deadline of May 31 for addressing his demands.

Given these circumstances, it is speculated that the high command may present some options by assigning different roles to Gehlot and Pilot before the elections. A senior Congress leader suggested that one of the options would be to reappoint Pilot as the party's state president. However, Gehlot might oppose it by citing the satisfactory performance of the current state president, Govind Singh Dotasara who comes from the Jat community, a major vote bank. The party leadership may ask Gehlot to appoint Dotasara as the deputy CM.

Another option the top leadership is said to be considering is to project Pilot as the chief ministerial face for the next election. However, considering the deep resentment that has developed between Gehlot and Pilot, it is unlikely that Gehlot would agree to this option.

RAJ ALTERNATES BETWEEN 2 PARTIES

Political analysts believe that the party high command is not as confident about Rajasthan as it is about Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. This lack of confidence stems from the desert state's tradition of changing power after every state election. Another key factor is the rivalry between the two main pillars of the party in the state, Gehlot and Pilot.

Oppn parties to meet in Patna on June 12, says Nitish

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

BIHAR CM Nitish Kumar has hinted that he might chair a meeting of Opposition parties to chalk out a strategy against the BJP ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election in Patna on June 12. The CM's remark came on the concluding day of the two-day conclave of the JD(U) office-bearers in the state capital on Sunday. The JD(U) had last year snapped ties with the BJP and formed a 'grand alliance' government with the RJD and Congress support.

"We have been working for the Opposition unity ever since the grand alliance government was formed in Bihar. The positive result of our efforts for uniting opposition parties against the BJP will be visible soon," said Nitish.

He said the date of the Opposition parties' meeting has been finalised in consultation with other parties across the country. On May 22, Nitish had called on Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi.

At the joint press conference, both Rahul and Nitish had said that the date of the meeting of Opposition parties would be finalised in "two-three days."

Leaders of over two dozen non-BJP parties will attend the meeting, sources said. Earlier, Nitish met his counterparts in Delhi and West Bengal, Arvind Kejriwal and Mamata Banerjee respectively, Samajwadi Party chief and former UP CM Akhilesh Yadav, NCP chief Sharad Pawar, Shiv Sena leader Uddhav Thakre, Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren besides Left leaders.

"Right now the task is to unite all parties. It is important to work together to save democracy. After looking at the condition of the country, it seems if we work together, there will be support for the alternative," said Pawar after meeting Nitish earlier this month. He had also met Uddhav Thackrey of Shiv Sena (UBT). However, Nitish's bid to unite Opposition will face the real test when he negotiates with the central Congress leadership.

AHMEDABAD DIARY

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
Our correspondent in Gujarat
dilipsingh@newindianexpress.com

Congress outreach through 'Janmanch'

Amit Chavda, Gujarat's Congress legislature party leader, is currently busy listening to people's problems through the Congress initiative 'Janmanch', under the scorching heat. Chavda is responding to the public's concerns through his 'Jan Manch' campaign. The zeal with which the leader is marking his participation in 'Janmanch' programmes indicates that Congress is now seriously working to connect people with the party in the state. Congress is frequently accused of not engaging in public concern politics. However, recently, Congress promised that it will take their issues and problems from the public meeting to the assembly.

BJP to launch 30-day citizen-conncect

The state BJP has started organising a "citizen connect" programme in Gujarat's 26 Lok Sabha constituencies with an eye towards the 2024 elections. According to party officials, office bearers were instructed to go and hold a public conversation on the completion of PM Narendra Modi's administration for 9 years. For the next month, the MP will visit his constituents and inform them about the government's work. The BJP will organise one each for Lok Sabha and 100 large public meetings in state.

BJP changes 17 city, district presidents

It appears as though the Gujarat BJP is holding jigs without announcing about them formally. The presidents of four more districts and cities were recently replaced by the BJP's State President CR Patil. The presidents of 17 districts and city divisions have all been removed so far, one by one, by the State BJP. According to sources, some presidents have been changed because a few city or district presidents have become an MLA after winning the assembly elections. While some presidents have been dismissed due to poor performance or party discipline. With Lok Sabha polls coming closer, the BJP may undergo numerous replacements, sources said.

Maoists threaten to boycott rights activist in C'garh

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

BASTAR Maoists issued a statement to boycott rights activist Shubhranshu Chowdhary's campaign 'Chaikle Maandi' (meeting for peace and prosperity) to initiate peace talks.

Chowdhary, the convenor of 'The New Peace Process' campaign, believes there is a complete silence with the ongoing violence in Chhattisgarh with no visible effort carried out to end the deadlock.

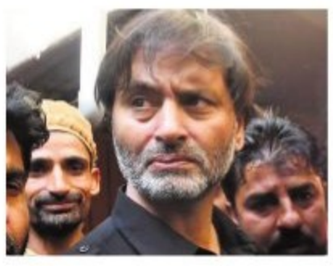
"Is so-called social activist Shubhranshu Chowdhary a well-wisher of tribals or corporate companies? His campaign is sponsored by the Centre, state government and corporates. It will not succeed", issued by the Dandakaranya north sub-zonal bureau.

Undeterred Chowdhary said that tribal people are passing resolutions in their meetings to impress upon the state to start a dialogue process with Maoists for peace in the region as promised by Congress in their last election manifesto.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had earlier reiterated that the door for talks remains open if the rebels had to express their faith in the Constitution and give up arms

Kashmir parties object to NIA plea for death to separatist Yasin Malik

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar



AS the Delhi High Court on Monday hears a plea by the NIA seeking the death penalty for detained Kashmiri separatist leader and JKLF chairman **Mohammad Yasin Malik**, the mainstream parties in J&K have opposed the move with a former minister saying the NIA plea is "dangerous."

Former chief minister and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti said, "In a democracy like India where even the assassins of a PM were pardoned, the case of a political prisoner like Yasin Malik must be reviewed." Peoples Conference chairman and former minister Sajjad Lone said NIA's plea on Yasin Malik is dangerous.

"It is a humble plea. Let you not be misled by fair-weather Kashmir experts. Every situation involves short-term and long-term. Let the short-term enforced calm not blind you to the possible long-term turbulence?" he asked.

"Let us Kashmiris live in peace. No more experiments. We need oxygen from the rest of the country as we are gasping for political breath," Sajjad said. J&K Apni Party chairman and former minister Altaf Bukhari said the NIA was trying to be hasty by approaching the Delhi High Court.

"Everyone deserves justice. Yasin Malik's case should be reinvestigated," Bukhari said. Srinagar Mayor Junaid Mattu said, "I disagree with Malik's ideology. But seeking the death penalty for him doesn't help anyone but his ideological narrative". Malik was a pioneer of armed militancy in J&K but he and his party renounced militancy in 1994. After giving up violence, he held many hunger strikes.

Malik has been detained by NIA and awarded a life sentence by an NIA court in a militancy-funding case. He is currently lodged in Tihar jail.

Silver lining: 4 tribal girls from this remote Bengal village clear boards

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

SAHEBDANGA, a tribal inhabited village in Bolpur, Birbhum, finally witnessed a silver lining last week when four girls of the poverty-stricken hamlet became the first among women in the village who passed Class X examination against all odds and hardships.

Basanti Tudu, Latika Murmu, Meeru Hansda and Sumitra Tudu have set an example of determination. All of them met a common plight during their childhood when they lost their father. They had to join their mother to work as daily wage earners.

"It was a very tough situation. After working throughout the day as daily labourer, I used to sit with text books. I used to feel sleepy because I would be very tired but my determination to clear Class X examination would keep me awake. No girl in our village appeared in the examination before," recounted Latika, who studied in Bolpur Paruldanga Shikshaniketan.

The total literacy rate of Bolpur Sriniketan block, where Latika's village is located, is 70.67 per cent and female literacy rate is 56.55 per cent in the area. Basanti, Meeru and Sumitra faced the same plight that Latika did.

The girls became the first among women in the village who cleared Class X boards

"The nearest high school is four km from our village with no public transport facility. On the way to school, we had to cross three fields, where the land was barren with no trees in sight to offer us shed during summers or monsoon. But all my pain seemed worth it when I found my name in the list of successful candidates who appeared in this year's Class X board exam," said Meeru.

Basanti's mother Lakhhi Tudu, who works as a daily labourer, said none of her family studied before. "We could not even imagine of appearing in Class X examination. My daughter's sheer willpower won," she said.

The teenagers said they would encourage other girls of the village to pursue their education. "Many leave education midway due to poverty. We will make them aware on why it is important. We will help them in every possible way so that no one stops going to school," said Sumitra. Recently, a welfare organisation, adopted the village for its development.

G20 delegates visit U'khand's transformed village in Tehri

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

G20 delegates who attended the meeting at Oni village, in Tehri Garhwal on Sunday

AT the conclusion of the second meeting of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) in Uttarakhand, foreign delegates returned with an unforgettable glimpse of India's rich culture. Twenty foreign delegates visited Oni village in Tehri, which has been transformed into a modern hamlet in a span of a few months.

The foreign delegates were welcomed in the traditional style at Oni. Women of self-help groups and artists of traditional musical instruments gave them a rousing welcome.

"Foreign delegates visited the Anganwadi centre of the village, the interpretation centre set up by Narendra Nagar Forest Division, Panchayat Bhavan, pottery bank, rural savings bank, the milk production centre and millet centre," said state Forest Minister Subodh Uniyal.

In a few months, the picture of Oni village has completely changed. The rejuvenation of the village is due to the G-20 conference which concluded on Saturday with the visit of foreign delegates.

Villager Mahipal Singh said the Central government chose their village for the G-20 summit. "It is a matter of pride for us." Oni village is about 3 km inside the highway. The access road linking the highway to the village was extremely narrow till March 2023. "The villagers had to face a lot of difficulties in reaching the village, but now this 3-km link road has been widened, thanks to the G-20 meeting," said village head Ravindra Pundir.

"The dilapidated internal roads of the village have been repaired. Apart from laying interlocking tiles, 40 solar street lights have been installed in the village, which keeps the streets of the village illuminated all night," said Pundir.

Smart classrooms and other facilities have been provided in the village primary school. A modern kitchen has been constructed while rejuvenating the Anganwadi centre. A pottery bank is also being built in the village where old utensils which are now going out of circulation will be collected and stored," said Pundir.

GSI to study 'poison' in Punjab groundwater

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE Geological Survey of India (GSI) will soon launch a project to determine the level of contamination in groundwater in some districts of Punjab and Haryana by tracing the presence of heavy metals and element.

The GSI will also prepare a geo-environmental map to identify water-contaminated areas. The Punjab government has decided to install a real-time telemetering system to gauge the treated water from sewage treatment plants (STPs) for irrigation so that the dependence on tubwells can be reduced.

Across the country, Punjab has the maximum value of uranium in the groundwater at 532 parts per billion (PPB) out of the total 329 samples analyzed for uranium concentration. As many as 96 samples were found beyond the permissible limit of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). Haryana comes second with 14.4% of samples having beyond the permissible limit prescribed by BIS, as per a report of the Central Groundwater Board which was released a few months back.

Sources said that GSI in association with the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) will execute the project following the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) last year between the two sides to carry out collaborative studies and exchange data. The project will cover Ludhiana, Nawanshahr and Jalandhar districts in Punjab and parts of Rohtak and Bhiwani districts in Haryana. The project will be completed in about two years.

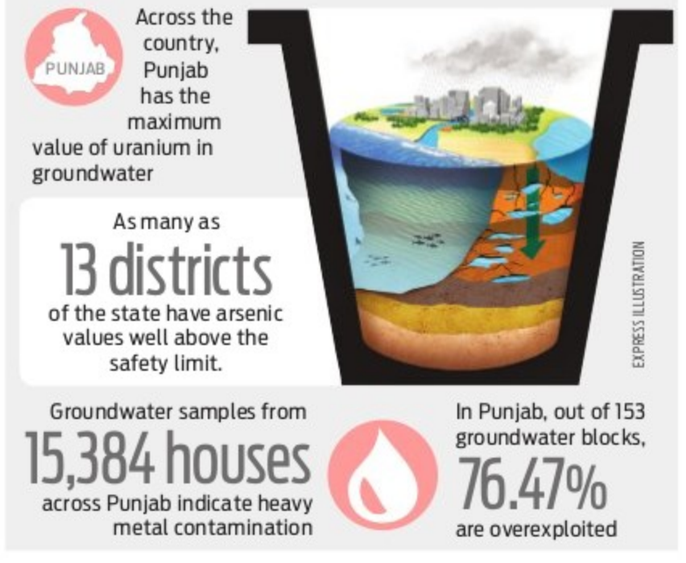
The project will also look into geogenic factors -- originating in the soil, as opposed to those of anthropogenic that is related to human activity and causes of contamination. It will also suggest remedial measures, said sources.

As many as 13 districts of Punjab have arsenic values well above the safety limit as per official reports, besides samples of groundwater collected from 15,384 houses across the state which indicate heavy metal contamination.

Sources said that lead, iron, mercury, nickel, platinum, uranium, thallium, arsenic, manganese and radionuclide are trace elements and heavy metals which are present in the environment are in very low quantities but can be toxic to humans if consumed over long periods.

Meanwhile, in another development, the Punjab Agriculture University (PAU) and state soil and water conservation department will jointly carry out the real-time telemetering system to gauge the treated water from sewage treatment plants for irrigation project. The findings will help in better policy formation.

The telemeter system will be installed both on treated water supply from particular STP and tubewells in the area. This will help in gauging water usage by farmers and check whether farmers have switched from using groundwater to treated water.


Water woes in border state
PUNJAB
Across the country, Punjab has the maximum value of uranium in groundwater
As many as
13 districts
of the state have arsenic values well above the safety limit.
Groundwater samples from
15,384 houses
across Punjab indicate heavy metal contamination
In Punjab, out of 153 groundwater blocks,
76.47%
are overexploited
EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

THREE kids were injured in Pak's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Sunday after two earthquakes jolted the region

GLOBAL WEATHER

City	Max	Min		City	Max	Min	
Beijing	32	21	TDS	Los Angeles	20	15	LC
Colombo	31	27	LC	Melbourne	16	11	HR
Dhaka	36	27	TDS	Moscow	22	11	HR
Dubai	38	28	SNY	New York	27	14	LC
Houston	29	22	SNY	Singapore	32	28	TDS
Istanbul	21	17	LC	Toronto	20	14	LC
London	17	8	LC	Washington	23	14	LC

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

RUSSIA LAUNCHES BIGGEST DRONE ATTACK ON UKRAINE

Kyiv's air force shot down 58 out of 59 Iranian-made Shahed drones

KYIV

UKRAINE'S capital was subjected to the largest drone attack since the start of Russia's war, local officials said, as Kyiv prepared to mark the anniversary of its founding on Sunday. At least one person was killed, but officials said scores of drones were shot down, demonstrating Ukraine's air defence capability.

Russia launched the "most massive attack" on the city overnight Saturday with Iranian-made Shahed drones, said Serhii Popko, a senior Kyiv military official. The attack lasted more than five hours, with air defence reportedly shooting down more than 40 drones.

A 41-year-old man was killed and a 35-year-old woman was hospitalised when debris fell on a seven-story nonresidential building and started a fire, Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko said.

Ukraine said on Sunday that its air defence forces had shot down 58 out of 59 drones launched by Russia overnight.

"The Russian Federation carried out another massive attack on the territory of Ukraine, using Iranian attack drones Shahed," the Ukrainian General Staff said, adding that "according to updated information, 58 out of 59 (drones) were shot down by our defenders." Ukraine's air force had earlier said that a record of 54 drones had been launched.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Sunday praised his country's air defence forces.

"Every time you shoot down enemy drones and missiles, lives are saved... you are heroes!" Zelenskyy told his air defence forces on Sunday morning, also thanking the rescuers.

Kyiv Day marks the anniversary of the city's official founding. The day is usually celebrated with live concerts, street fairs, exhibitions and fireworks. Scaled-back festivities were planned for this year, the city's 1,541st anniversary.

A rescuer putting out a fire in a building as a result of falling debris after a massive drone attack mainly targetting Kyiv. Men inspect their office damaged by a drone during a night attack in Kyiv on Sunday | AFP/AP

Kremlin yet to act seriously: Diplomat

Against the backdrop of Saturday night's drone attacks, Russia's ambassador to the UK, Andrei Kelin, warned of an escalation in Ukraine. He told the *BBC* his country had "enormous resources" and it was yet to "act very seriously."

The timing of the drone attacks was likely not coincidental, Ukrainian officials said.

"The history of Ukraine is a long-standing irritant for the insecure Russians," Ukraine's chief presidential aide, Andriy Yermak, said on Telegram.

"Today, the enemy decided to 'congratulate' the people of Kyiv on Kyiv Day with the help of their deadly UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles)," senior Kyiv military official Popko wrote on Telegram. *Agencies*

Erdogan wins Turkiye PREZ runoff

ANKARA

TURKEY President Recep Tayyip Erdogan won re-election on Sunday, extending his increasingly authoritarian rule into a third decade in a country reeling from high inflation and the aftermath of an earthquake that leveled entire cities.

With nearly 99% of ballot boxes opened, unofficial results from competing news agencies showed Erdogan with 52% of the vote, compared with 48% for his challenger, Kemal Kilicdaroglu. In his first comments since the polls closed, Erdogan spoke to supporters on a campaign bus outside his home in Istanbul. "I thank each member of our nation for entrusting me with the responsibility to govern this country once again for the upcoming five years," he said. He ridiculed his challenger for his loss, saying "bye bye bye, Kemal," as supporters booed.

"The only winner today is Turkey," Erdogan said. He promised to work hard for Turkey's second century. The country marks its centennial this year. "No one can look down on our nation," he said.

Supporters of the divisive populist were celebrating even before the final results arrived, waving Turkish or ruling party flags, and honking car horns, chanting his name and "in the name of God, God is great."

With a third term, Erdogan will have an even stronger hand internationally, and the election results will have implications far beyond Ankara. Turkey stands at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, and it plays a key role in NATO.

Erdogan, 69, could remain in power until 2028. A devout Muslim, he heads the conservative and religious Justice and Development Party, or AKP. Erdogan transformed the presidency from a largely ceremonial role to a powerful office through a narrowly won 2017 referendum that scrapped Turkey's parliamentary system of governance. *AP*

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the General Public that my client **SRI.G.RAMESH,** S/o Sri.G.N.Doreswamy Chetty, has lost the original of Sale deed dated 09.12.1999 executed by Smt.Guramma and others represented by their GPA Holder Sri.M.Narayana Reddy in favour of Smt.S.Vidya and Sri.K.Srinivasa Raghavan, registered as document No.6843/1999-2000 of Book-I and stored in CD No.ICD-038 in the office of Sub-Registrar, K.R.Puram, Bengaluru, in respect of property Site No.5A, ITI Notified Area Khatha No.16/1/41/5A, situated at Sonnathammanahalli, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, present Bengaluru East Taluk. In case the same is traced by anybody they should hand over the same to the undersigned and also in case anybody is having any claim, charge or interest over the said property, they shall lodge their objections with the undersigned within **SEVEN DAYS** from the date of Publication of this Notice.

D.S. BHAT, Advocate
M/S BHAT ASSOCIATES
1st Main, 5th Cross, Yeshwanthpur, BENGALURU - 560 022.
Mob: 9916994581
BENGALURU, DATE: 27.05.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, on behalf of my client, **Mr.K.S.Umashankar** S/o Late.K.B. Shivalingappa, residing at # 232/1, First Floor, Chikka Thataguni, Bangalore-62, has lost the sale deed dated 12-01-2005 registered at Document No.KEN-1-37271-2004-05 of Book-1, CD No.KEND174, before the sub-registrar, Kengeri, in respect of site No.22, Katha No.36/P3, situated at Thataguni Village, Agara Dhakle, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore south taluk, while travelling. He has lodged a police complaint, but could not trace out the same in spite of his best efforts.
If any person/s having any claim, right, title or interest in respect of the above sale deed, may intimate the same in writing with supported documents to the undersigned ***within Ten days (10 days)*** from this notice. Failing which my client, believing that there are no claims or objections whatsoever will proceed without original document and use certified copy of the same to enforce for all future transactions.

Sd/-
A.V.Sathyanarayana Murthy, *B.Com.,LL.B.,* **Advocate,**
No.25/2, Flat No.201, 'SIRI JAYA ENCLAVE', Uttarahalli, Bangalore-61 . Mob: 9342593673
Date: 28.05.2023 Bangalore

HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate Office: 27 A, Developed Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai – 600032, Website:www.hindujaleylandfinance.com
CIN: U65993MH2008PLC384221

Possession Notice under Section 13[4] of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

POSSESSION NOTICE
APPENDIX IV See Rule 8(1)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **M/S. HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE LIMITED**, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) R/w Rule 8 &9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and issued Demand Notice dated 18.01.2023, calling upon the Applicant/Co-Borrowers / Co-Borrowers in Loan Account. **No. KABNBN03437, 1. M/s V V ENTERPRISES, Prop: Mr. M. VIJAY VARMA \Ville 4, Suraksha Fair View, Belathur Village, Kadugodi Post, Bidarahalli Hobli, White Fields, Bangalore, Karnataka -560067; 2. Mr. M. VIJAY VARMA, Ville 4, Suraksha Fair View, Belathur Village, Kadugodi Post, Bidarahalli Hobli, White Fields, Bangalore, Karnataka -560067 and 3.Mrs. Vasundhara V. Varma, Ville 4, Suraksha Fair View, Belathur Village, Kadugodi Post, Bidarahalli Hobli, White Fields, Bangalore, Karnataka -560067.** To repay the amount mentioned in the notice being, Demand notice dated 18.01.2023 Outstanding dues **Rs.1,59,76,198/- (Rupees One Crore Fifty-Nine Lakhs Seventy-Six Thousand One and Ninety-Eight Only)** As On 13.01.2023 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The Borrower /Co-Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower /Co-Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act R/w Rule 8 And 9, on this **23rd day of May, 2023.**
The Borrower /Co-Borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **M/S. HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE LIMITED** for an amount **Rs.1,59,76,198/- (Rupees One Crore Fifty-Nine Lakhs Seventy-Six Thousand One and Ninety-Eight Only)** As On 13.01.2023 and interest and charges thereon.
The Borrower /Co-Borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub- Sec.8 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY: All that part and parcel of property bearing PH-1 new Municipal No.27/8 in third floor of Chaitra manor having 3016 Sq.Ft or super built up area along with 668 Sq.Ft or undivided share in Municipal No.27, PID NO.96-173-27, HL.No.27 & 28, Khatha No.48/2, 14th Cross of Nagavara Within the of BBMP and bounded on: East by: Property No.26, West by: Property No.29, North by: Private Property, South by: Road.

Place: BANGALORE **Sd/- Authorised Officer,**
Dated: 23.05.2023 **For Hinduja Leyland Finance Limited**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2
BSNL Building , 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore

RC NO. 486/2020 in O.A NO.1733/2018

NOTICE TO LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF DEFENDANT NO.1 LATE SRI. B K MARIYAPPA
BETWEEN
Kaveri Gramin Bank (Now Karnataka Gramin Bank), Hosadurga Branch,
Kanakapura Taluk & Ramanagar District.
Vs.
Sri. B K Mariyappa & others

Legal Heirs
1. Sri.Gokul, S/o Late B K Mariyappa, Bevanamaradoddi Village, Kodihally Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagar District
Alternate Address: C/o Chandru, Bilidale Village, Kodihalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagar District.
Whereas Recovery Certificate **No.486/2020** in **OA 1733/2018**, has been forwarded by Hon'ble Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore to the undersigned for the recovery of debt amounting to **Rs.19,79,041/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand & Forty One Only)** (interest thereon from **12.11.2018**), and the Presiding Officer had sent to the undersigned the certified copy of Recovery Certificate under Sec. 19(22) of RDB Act 1993, specifying that above mentioned amount is to be recovered along with future interest and cost from the Defendants/CDs and whereas the said **Sri. B K Mariyappa has died on 14.10.2020.**
You are hereby given notice that steps will be taken under all or any of the provisions of Sec. 25 of RDB Act 1993 read with II schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 to recover the above said amount from you together with future interest payable and the costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of warrants and other processes issued and all other proceedings taken for realizing the specified amount, unless the present outstanding amount of **Rs.33,85,225/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Eighty Five Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Five only)** as on 30.09.2022 with future interest, costs and expenses incurred so far and the aforesaid is payable by you within 15 days from the date of service of this notice.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on **19/10/2020.**

Sd/- RECOVERY OFFICER-1, DRT-2, BENGALORE

NB: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the II schedule to the Income Tax Act 1961 read with RDDBFI Act 1993 which is reproduced below. 16.(1) Where a notice has been served on the defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Recovery Officer nor shall any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of the money. (2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private, transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other moneys contrary to such attachment, shall be void as against all the claims enforceable under the attachment.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to give notice to the Public that Our client's Mr. Irfan Bin Abdullah, and Mr. Abdul Wajid intending to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned hereunder from Mrs.Sona Noel D'Cruz and Mrs.S.Jamuna, both are daughters of Late Sathya Narayana Singh, who has represented that they have jointly acquired the Schedule Property from their father Late Sathya Narayana Singhvide Gift deed dated 28-06-2016, registered as document No.INR-1-00671-2016-17, of Book I, Stored in CD No.INRD167, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Indiranagar, Bangalore. The Owners further represented that they had lost the parental deed that is the Original Registered Will dated 21-01-1957, registered as document No.41 of Book III, Volume No.25 at Pages 4 to 6 registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Civil Sttion Bangalore of the below mentioned Schedule Property.
In view of the above, any Financial Institutions, Banks, Co-operative Societies, Agreement Holders, Power of Attorney Holders, assignees and/or anybody, or in custody of any documents/deed, who have any manner of right, title, claim interest, charge and/or any objections in whatsoever manner for intending purchase shall file their objections with documentary proof, before the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication, failing which my client's will proceed with the completion of the proposed Transaction/Sale Agreement/Sale Deed and complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF Residential Building constructed on Property bearing BBMP Khatha No.139/1, (Oldest No.69 and Portion of Property No.139) situated at MADHAVARAYA MUDALIAR ROAD, (M.M.ROAD) Frazer Town, Bangalore-560005, BBMP PID No.91-2-139/2, Ward No.78. E-ASTHI Entry No.1099863, MEASURING: East 9 Feet+12 Feet 3 inches; West 22 Feet 4½ inches; North: 15 Feet 3 inches + 15 feet 6 inches; South: 31 Feet 1½ inches. Totally Measuring 523.92 Square Feet, BOUNDED ON: East by Portion of Property No.139,West by Private Property, North by Property No.139. MM Road, South by: Common Passage Leading to M.M.Road,

AKHIL AHMED .P
ASCENT LEGAL INC., Advocate
#120/12, 2nd Floor, New M.M. Complex, Chick Bazaar Road, Tasker Town, Bangalore-560051. Mobile: 9880354972

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby notified and informed that, my client Mr.Ravi.A.B. S/o Sri. Basavegowda, has been purchased the property mentioned in the schedule here under from Mr.T.R.Devaraju, by way of registered Sale deed, and link document Original Rectification deed No. DSP-1-07066/2014-15, in Book 1, CD No.DSPD197, SRO Dasanapura Bangalore, dated 03.11.2014. It is submitted that my client, while travelling in the BMTC bus said original document has been lost/misplaced. I any person/s in contact of the same or found they may kindly return the same to my client or the below mentioned address. In this regard my client also lodged a police complaint in respect of the lost document through online which has registered as Lost Report No.0578147/2023, on 27.05.2023.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY:
All that Piece and parcel of property bearing Northern Portion of Site No.24, khatha No.110/4 & 110/5, measuring East to West 30 ft and North to South 20 ft in totally measuring 600 Sq.ft. formed in Sy.No.110/4 measuring 1 acre and Sy.No.110/5 measuring 1 acre Situated at Nagaruru Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, and Bounded on the East By: Site No.3 & 4, West By: Layout Road, North By: Site No.25, South By: Remaining southern portion of Site No.24.

E.T. Divakara, Advocate,
No. 27, 3rd Floor, Hospital Road, Behind Mysore Bank, Near Menaka Theatre, Bangalore-560053.
Mob No: 9741818992 **Date: 28.05.2023**

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public may note that, my Client **Smt. V. Varalakshmi** W/o. Manjunath is intended to purchase the schedule property from its owner **Smt. Varanasi Saritha** W/o. Kambham Ramakrishna Reddy.
If any person/s have any claim over the schedule property the same may be intimated in writing along with documents to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this publication, in the absence of any objection within the above said period, it shall be deemed that, there is no objection and the sale deed will be executed in my clients favor without any further reference in this regard.

SCHEDULE
All the piece and parcel of the underdeveloped converted land measuring **0-19.08** (Nineteen & half) **guntas** in **Survey No.374/4** (old Sy.No. 374/2) of **Cheeluru Village,** Maralawadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk Now at Harohalli Taluk, Ramanagara District, the land is converted for Industrial purpose vide Official Memorandum No. 174093 dated 14-10-2020 issued by the Deputy Commissioner Ramanagara District & bounded on the :-
East by : Bangalore-Kanakapura Road,
West by : Land in Sy.No. 191,
North by : Land in Sy.No. 374/6,
South by : Land in Sy.No. 374/5.

NAGARAJU .K, Advocate
Office No.97/B-1/1, 1st Floor, Jayanagara 7th Block, Bengaluru-560070.
Mobile: 9740853223

POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** (Formerly known as Janalakshmi Financial Services Limited)., under the Securitization And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued demand notices to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrower (s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/ or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	48008640000024, 48009660000020	1) M/s. New Sabri Bakery Rep. by its Prop. Mr. Manoj Kumar T.K, 2) Mr. Manoj Kumar T.K, Prop. of M/s New Sabri Bakery 3) Mrs. Vini	13-03-2023 & Rs.54,00,350.42 & Rs.6,29,171.70 as on 09-03-2023 and interest thereon.	25-05-2023 10:15 A.M. Symbolic Possession
	Schedule of the Property: All that piece and parcel of property bearing. Site No.29, old Property No. 208, House List Katha No.108/1, New Katha No. 2814/208/108/1/29, Situated at Kithiganur Village, BidarahalliHobli, Bangalore East Taluk, earlier Bangalore South Taluk, Measuring East to West 42 feet, North To South 30 feet, in all Measuring 1260 Sq.Ft. **and Bounded: East by:** Site No.28, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.24.			
2	30198648698202, 30199660000456	1) M/s Ganapathi Textiles Rep. by its Prop. Mr. Malar Sriraman S, 2) Mrs. Malar Sriraman, Prop. of M/s Ganapathi Textiles and 3) Mr. Sriraman S	23.02.2023 Rs.46,10,766.01 & Rs.3,68,022.50/- as on 20-02-2023	25-05-2023 12.20 P.M. Symbolic Possession
	Schedule of the Property: All that piece and parcel of immovable residential, vacant property bearing Site No.117/4, in Khatha No.2431/239/60/1/117/4, carved out of Sy.No.60/1, 4th Allotment, measuring East to West: 50 feet and North to South: 40 feet, totally measuring to an extent of 2000 Square Feet., (Kogilu Village), Maruthi Nagara, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, now coming under BBMP Ward No.1 Limits **and bounded on: East by:** Road, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Site No.118, **South by:** Site No.116.			

Whereas the Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer.**
Date: 29-05-2023 **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No. 10/1,11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate Office: 27 A, Developed Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai – 600032, Website:www.hindujaleylandfinance.com
CIN: U65993MH2008PLC384221

Possession Notice under Section 13[4] of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

POSSESSION NOTICE
APPENDIX IV See Rule 8(1)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **M/S. HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE LIMITED,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) R/w Rule 8 &9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and issued Demand Notice dated 03.02.2023, calling upon the Applicant/Co-Borrowers / Co-Borrowers in **Loan Account. No. KABNBN03435, 1.M/s. SRI SAI RAGHAVENDRA ART PRODUCTION Prop: Mr. GANAPA BHAKTAVATSALAM ; FLAT NO.- H 204, GROUND FLOOR, 2nd BLOCK, "SOBHA DEWFLOWER", M G GARDEN, 4th, J P 1st PHASE, BANGALORE – 560078; 2. Mrs. G. SUNITHA, FLAT NO.- H 204, GROUND FLOOR, 2nd BLOCK, "SOBHA DEWFLOWER", M G GARDEN, 4th, J P 1st PHASE, BANGALORE – 560078; Mr. G. SANKETH, FLAT NO.- H 204, GROUND FLOOR, 2nd BLOCK, "SOBHA DEWFLOWER", M G GARDEN, 4th, J P 1st PHASE, BANGALORE – 560078 and Also, At R/A NO.-A-18G2, BRIGADE MEDOWS KANAKAPURA ROAD, NEAR ART OF LIVING UDAYAPURA POST OFF ANJENYA TEMPLE, BANGALORE - 56082** repay the amount mentioned in the notice being, Demand notice dated 03.02.2023 Outstanding dues **Rs. 9,70,74,640/- (Rupees Nine Crore Seventy Lakhs Seventy-Four Thousand Six Hundred and Forty Only) as on 03.02.2023.** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The Borrower /Co-Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower /Co-Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act R/w Rule 8 And 9, on this **23rd day of May, 2023.**
The Borrower /Co-Borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **M/S. HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE LIMITED** for an amount **9,70,74,640/- (Rupees Nine Crore Seventy Lakhs Seventy -Four Thousand Six Hundred And Forty Only)** as on 03.02.2023 and interest and charges thereon.
The Borrower /Co-Borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub- Sec.8 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY: ITEM NO 1 : "All that part and parcel of flat no. H-204, ground floor, block no.2, having 2042.9 sqft of super built up area with 1208.18 sqft of undivided share in building known as "Sobha Dewflower" formed in sy.no.64/1, 64/2, 65, & the composite property presently bearing municipal no.18, situated at 5th cress, Gurumurthappa, Compound, Shakambari Nagar, Bangalore Presently within the limits of BBMP and bounded on: East By: Road and remaining property belonging to the vendors, West By: remaining property belonging to the vendors & private property, North By: private property & remaining portion of the lands belonging to the vendors, South By: private property & remaining portion of the lands belonging to the vendors
ITEM NO 2: "All that part and parcel of property bearing 1-10th undivided interest in respect of the portion of the property of the no. 38/7, (old no. 19), New municipal no. 38-7-15/1, situated at mavalli tank bund road, Bangalore, corporation Division no.42 (old no.27) presently within the limits of BBMP, and bounded on: measuring east to west 24.1 meters & north to south 8.25 meters. East By: property of haraiharanandaswamy mutt , West By: portion same property belongs to M/s JJ Builders and pvt ltd and reserved for passage, North by: portion same property belongs to M/s JJ Builders and pvt ltd and reserved for passage, South By: portion of same property belongs to vasavi paadise
Note: The area covered 10% of 198.9sqmtrs

Place: BANGALORE **Sd/- Authorised Officer,**
Dated: 23.05.2023 **For Hinduja Leyland Finance Limited**

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Notice is hereby given public at large that our client Mr. G.N. Naveen Kumar S/o Narayanaswamy residing at Gambeeranhalli Village, Jangamakote Hobli, Sidlaghatta Taluk, has lost the original Sale deed dated 20-12-1971 bearing Document No. 1838/1971-72 and another original Sale Deed dated 6-7-1972 bearing Document No.794/1972-73 has lost nearby court premises Sidlaghatta, accordingly he has lodged complaint to Chikkaballapura police unit dated 11-4-2023 with E-lost Report No. 0529592/2023 for schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Sy.No.34 measuring 2 acres 15 guntas situated at Mallenahalli Village, Jangamakote Hobli, Sidlaghatta Taluk bounded on:
East By : Land belongs to Narayanappa and Muni Byrappa in the same Sy.No., **West By :** Pilli Munemma and Muni Peddagana Land, **North By :** Kharabh Kaluve and Land belongs Dodda Thimmanna, **South By :** Gomala.
If anyone finding the aforesaid Document is hereby requested to handover the same to our office at the address mentioned.

Venkata Reddy C.L, Advocate
Near Court Complex, Sidlaghatta.
Mob No. 9731010439

FORM NO. 14: [See Regulation 33(2)]
By Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BANGALORE (DRT 1)
BSNL Building , 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore -560001
DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.
RC/334/2022 11/11/2022
KARNATAKA GRAMIN BANK Versus **SAI GANESH TRADERS**

In the Matter of:
(CH 1) KARNATAKA GRAMIN BANK (FORMERLY KAVERI GRAMEENA BANK) K.R. PURAM BRANCH, DEVANSANDRA MAIN ROAD, NAGAPPA COMPLEX, OPP. TO BANK OF BARODA, K.R. PURAM, BANGALURU EAST TALUK.
...**APPLICANT BANK/CERTIFICATE HOLDER**
--VERSUS---
TO,
(CD 1) M/s. SAI GANESH TRADERS, NO.19, 12TH CROSS, 1ST BLOCK, AKSHAYA NAGARA, T.C. PALYA MAIN ROAD, RAMAMURTHY NAGARA, BENGALURU - 560 016. REPRESENTED BY ITS PROPRIETOR SMT. UJWALA KUMARI D.S.
(CD 2) SMT UJWALA KUMARI DS, W/o. SRI SRINIVASA MURTHY D.S, NO.57, 5th MAIN, HORAMAVU MAIN ROAD, RAMAMURTHY NAGAR, BENGALURU -560 016.
(CD 3) SRI. MURUGAN P.K. S/O. SRI. KRISHNAPPA NAIDU, NO.5, T.C. PALYA MAIN ROAD, RAMAMURTHY NAGAR, BENGALURU - 560 016.
ALSO AT: BEHIND SANTHE ROAD, NEAR KOSHIS HOSPITAL, NO.6, T.C. PALYA MAIN ROAD, RAMAMURTHY NAGAR, BENGALURU - 560 016.
...**DEFENDANTS/CERTIFICATE DEBTORS**

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU (DRT 1) in **OA/1685/2018** an amount of **Rs.62,16,497 (Rupees Sixty Two Lakhs Sixteen Thousands Four Hundred Ninety Seven Only)** along with pendentellite and future interest @ 14 % Compound Interest (Monthly) w.e.f. **22/11/2018** till realization and costs of **Rs.94,541 (Rupees Ninety Four Thousands Five Hundred Forty One Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited). 2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under. 3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing. 4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **12/12/2022 at 10:30 a.m.** for further proceedings. 5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this **date: 11/11/2022**

Sd/- Recovery Officer-2
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT 1)

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act.) read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the said Rules). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the said Rules, the Authorised Officer of IIFL Home Finance Ltd. (IIFL HFL) (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s), to repay the amount mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, once again, to the Borrower(s) to pay within 60 days from the publication of this notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest from the date(s) of Demand Notice till the date of payment. The detail of the Borrower(s), amount due as on date of Demand Notice and security offered towards repayment of loan amount are as under:

Name of the Borrower (s)/ Guarantor (s)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
Mr. Kumar P Mrs.Malathi T K New Friends Tailors (Prospect No 949604 & 978773)	25-May-2023 Rs.15,30,420/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Thirty Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Only) for & Rs.15,87,086/-(Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Eighty Six Only) for 978773	All that piece and parcel of the property being : Site No.49, V P Khatha N, 743/131/144/49, Land Area Ad Measuring 1900 Sq. Ft., Carpet Area Ad Measuring 2493.75 Sq. Ft., and Built Up Area Ad Measuring 3325 Sq. Ft., E-Swathu No. 150200300600620642 , Survey No.44, situated at Govindashetty Palya, Konappan Agrahara Dhakale, Begur, Bangalore, 560100, Karnataka, India. Bounded By :North : Property of Sampangi Ramaiah, South : Property of Shankar, East : Road, West : Property of Narayana Reddy.

If the said Borrowers fail to make payment to IIFL HFL as aforesaid, IIFL HFL may proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the said Act, and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks, costs and consequences of the Borrowers. For, further details please contact to Authorised Officer at **"ADAM CHAMBERS," #11, Richmond Road, Bengaluru - 560025 / Corporate Office: IIFL Tower,** Plot No. 98, Udyog Vihar, Ph-IV Gurgaon, Haryana.
Place: Bangalore, Date: 29-05-2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.**

QuoteExpress
WITHOUT HARD WORK, NOTHING GROWS BUT WEEDS
GORDON B HINCKLEY

QuoteExpress
NEVER COMPLAIN AND NEVER EXPLAIN
BENJAMIN DISRAELI

Possession Notice (For Immovable Property) Rule 8-(1)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **IIFL Home Finance Limited** (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IIFL-HFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, a Demand Notice was issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower/Co-Borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **IIFL HFL** for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon."The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, If the borrower clears the dues of the **"IIFL HFL"** together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred, at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured assets shall not be sold or transferred by **"IIFL HFL"** and no further step shall be taken by **"IIFL HFL"** for transfer or sale of the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower(s) /Co-Borrower(s)	Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding Dues(Rs.)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
Mr.Shatrughan Kumar Sharma, Ankit Interior Solutions, Mrs.Munni Devi (Prospect No IL10099262)	All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing Flat No. Sun-II-5L-1105, Carpet Area Ad Measuring 632 Sq. Ft. and Super Built Up Area Ad Measuring 883 Sq. Ft., Floor No. 11, Block/Wing -5L , Provident Sunworth 2 - Rays Of Dawn, Sy.No.1 To 3 4P 5 6 7P 8P 9 To 26 Venkatapura Village Kengeri Hobli Bangalore , South Taluk , Bangalore, Karnataka, India.	Rs.33,79,442/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Four Hundred Forty Two Only)	14-Mar-2023	25-May-2023
Mr.Santukumar Dhara Mrs.Anika Dhara Aarvi Gold Jewellery (Prospect No IL10112577)	All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing:- Apartment Number-1907, Carpet Area Ad Measuring 354 Sq. Ft., Super Built Up Area Ad Measuring 540 Sq. Ft., Floor No. 19, Wing A4, Vbhc Palmhaven Block A, Sy Nos.25P 281 28 294 296 297 299 2910 2911 2912 2913 2914 2915 321 , Adoddabele Village Kengeri Hobli , Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore 560060, Karnataka, India.	Rs.24,86,699/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Nine Only)	14-Feb-2023	25-May-2023

For, further details please contact to Authorised Officer at **Branch Office: "ADAM CHAMBERS," #11, Richmond Road, Bengaluru-560025** or **Corporate Office:** Plot No.98, Phase-IV, Udyog Vihar, Gurgaon, Haryana.
Place: Bangalore , Date: 29-05-2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.**

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र./ SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

ई–निविदा सूचना सं./e-Tender Notice No.: SHAR/CMD/E/F 2387206/2023-24 तिथि/ Date. 24.05.2023

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से,"सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र शार के आगंतुक परिसर में प्रवेश प्लॉजा के लिए विद्युत कार्य।"(अनुमानित लागत: ₹57.30 लाख के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज 12.06.2023 को 14:30 बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO देखें।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Electrical works for Entrance Plaza, Visitors Complex, SDSC SHAR." (Estimated cost: ₹57.30 Lakhs)**. Tender documents can be downloaded up to **12.06.2023, 14:30 hrs**. Interested tenderer may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / **Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR**

TAMIL NADU URBAN HABITAT DEVELOPMENT BOARD
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, NORTH CIRCLE – II

NOTICE INVITING E- TENDER

1) **Name of the work: Reconstruction of 170 tenements (G + 4 and S + 6)** adopting type design 99 A & B / 2022 including internal water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works **at Gangaikaraipuram Scheme** in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 113, Zone – IX under HFA vertical III (AHP). (Retender 1st Call)
(TENDER REFERENCE No. TNUHDB/75 /D1/SE (NC-II)/2023)
2) **Name of the work: Reconstruction of 68 Tenements (Stilt + 4 Storied)** adopting Type Design No. 90 & 91 / 2022 including internal water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works **at Appaswamy Mudali Street Scheme** in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 110, Zone-IX under Housing For All Vertical III (AHP) of PMAY. (Retender 1st Call)
(TENDER REFERENCE No. TNUHDB/76 /D1/SE (NC-II)/2023)
3) **Name of Work: Reconstruction of 188 Tenements (Stilt + 9 Storied)** including internal water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works **at Vembuliamman Koil Street scheme** in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 108, Zone- VIII under Housing For All Vertical III (AHP) of PMAY.
(TENDER REFERENCE No. TNUHDB/77 /D1/SE (NC-II)/2023)
4) **Name of Work: Reconstruction of 168 Tenements (Stilt + 6 Storied)** adopting Type Design No. 80 / 2022 and 81 / 2022 including internal water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works **at Badrikarai Scheme** in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 113, Zone- IX under Housing For All Vertical III (AHP) of PMAY.
(TENDER REFERENCE No. TNUHDB/78 /D1/SE (NC-II)/2023)

The Superintending Engineer, North Circle II on behalf of Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board invites submission of online bids from eligible bidders for the contract package named above. Bids are invited under two cover system to be uploaded in the online web portal **https://tntenders.gov.in**
Detailed Notice of Invitation of Bids and the Pre-Qualification Criteria and the Bid document for the above package would be available at **https://tntenders.gov.in** starting from **29.05.2023** Deadline of bid submission is upto **12:00 Noon** on **28.06.2023.** All required information are provided in the bid document.
Bidders may contact **Superintending Engineer, North Circle II, TNUHDB** through **Email: sechennainorthcircle2@gmail.com** for any other information on bidding process.

DIPR/ 2767 /TENDER/2023 **Superintending Engineer North Circle-II**

" சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

₹37,316 cr have been pumped in Indian equities by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) in May so far, primarily due to strong macroeconomic fundamentals.

Old & New tax regime: Resolving tax saving puzzle for FY24

In case if taxpayers do not inform their employers about the tax regime they have chosen, TDS will be decided as per the new tax regime

MONIKA YADAV @New Delhi

THE changes in the new tax regime as announced in the Budget will be applicable from the current financial year 2023-24. So, it is crucial for all the taxpayers to plan well in advance, as the new tax regime has been made the default option.

It is to be noted that the tax deducted at source (TDS) will be decided as per the new tax regime if employees do not inform their employers about the tax regime they have opted for. Tax department allows a salaried individual to select either of the tax regimes for the purpose of TDS on salaries. After they have finalised the tax regime, they cannot change it during the financial year. However, they can choose another tax regime at the time of filing their income tax return.

Deciding old vs new regime

The government announced several changes in the new tax regime to make it more attractive. It is very important for the taxpayers to analyse both the regimes to make a well-informed decision. The take-home salary will get affected if the salaried individual doesn't do the right calculation. There is no change in the old tax regime, while in the new tax regime, income has been exempted up to ₹7 lakh per annum.

Further, standard deduction for salaried individuals has been introduced and surcharge on taxable incomes above ₹5 crore has also been reduced in the new regime. According to experts, it is pertinent for the taxpayers to know the effective rate of tax, which is the actual amount of income tax paid on an individual's taxable income. The simple way to calculate it is to divide the total tax expense by the total income earned during the year.

Know your effective tax rate

"One must know what is an effective rate of tax while planning one's investment and tax. For a person who is earning an income between ₹50 lakh and ₹1 crore, the effective rate of tax could be between 24-31% under both the old and new tax regimes," says Vivek Jalan, Partner, Tax Connect Advisory, a multi-disciplinary tax consultancy firm.

But those in the ₹15-50 lakh bracket, the difference in effective tax rates widens depending on the exemptions one is availing. Therefore, those in this income bracket need to do some analysis before deciding on the tax regime.

OLD VS NEW TAX REGIME

	Old tax regime	New Tax regime
Gross salary	₹ 15 lakh	₹ 15 lakh
Less: Deductions and Exemptions		
Standard Deduction	₹ 50,000	₹ 50,000
Professional Tax	₹ 2,500	₹ 2,500
Deduction under section 80C	₹ 1,50,000	NA
Health Insurance for Self and Family (Section 80D)	₹ 25,000	NA
Health Insurance for Senior Citizen Parents (Section 80D)	₹ 50,000	NA
Interest on loan for self-occupied house property	₹ 2,00,000	NA
House Rent Allowance	₹ 1,50,000	NA
Taxpayer contribution to National Pension Scheme (Section 80CCD(1B))	₹ 50,000	NA
Taxable Income	₹ 8,22,500	₹ 14,47,500
Surcharge	-	-
Cess	₹ 32,900	₹ 57,900
Total Tax liability	**₹8,55,400**	**₹15,05,400**
Effective tax rate	**5.34%**	**9.67%**

Tax Working- Both HRA and HBL; New Tax Regime for FY 2023-24

ASSUMPTIONS: The taxpayer is a salaried employee and enjoys exemptions from salaries under New Tax regime; Professional tax is applicable in certain specific states. It is assumed that the taxpayer is liable to professional tax

"Those earning between ₹15 lakh - ₹50 lakh can structure their salary in discussion with their employers so as to take maximum deduction under house rent allowance, deductions for medical expenses, deductions for gifts received from employers, etc," says Jalan.

According to Atul Goel, partner in chartered accounting firm Atul Goel & Associates, if the taxpayer is availing maximum deductions provided under the old system, then tax savings will be more in the old regime. For example, if the employee with an annual income of ₹15 lakh per annum is getting benefit of HRA as well as Housing loan interest on satisfying applicable conditions then the effective tax rate will be 5.34% as compared with 9.67% in the new regime.

However, if the taxpayer has not taken any HRA or housing loan, then the new tax regime is better as the effective tax rate will come at 9.67% as against 10.19% under the old regime.

Weighing tax saving options

Meanwhile, CA Chetan Daga, Founder, AdvantEdge Consulting, says the choice of regime is dependent on the exemptions and deductions being availed by the employees.

He says as a rule of thumb, an employee covered under the 30% tax slab and having exemptions of less than ₹375,000 is better off opting for the new regime.

"Also, the saving of income-tax should be seen along with the investment pattern and cash flow requirements of the employee. Tax saving components entail either an expenditure or a monetary outflow blocked for a particular period of time," Daga said.

The employee should compare the opportunity cost of blocking funds under a tax saving component as against his cash flow needs and the potential gain that he may earn by investing funds in a non-tax saving mode.

As such, the choice of tax regime is as much a tax query as it is a commercial query, he further added.

MONEY MATTERS

WHY LEARNING TO INVEST MATTERS

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

Investment helps beat inflation

The biggest enemy of your wealth is inflation. Investment helps you beat inflation each year. The effect of wealth creation is not overnight; you need discipline and patience to achieve the objective.

IF you learn to swim and drive, you will never forget. When you swim or drive, your body responds to do the right thing. The world of investments is complex, and no single technique is the right way. However, learning to invest will help you in times of your needs, like swimming and driving.

You may not become an expert. You may not understand when is the right time to buy or sell your investment. However, learning about investing will only help you in the long run. A passive investment approach over 20 years of work could turn transformational.

Investing for wealth

There is a difference between saving and investing. You know that you have to save your income for a rainy day. That is well understood in every Indian household. So, you keep cash or buy gold or property. The idea is that your savings would help you in the time of your need. They will allow you to achieve life goals that need a high expenditure. While these tangible assets are easy to understand and evaluate, you are missing something important. The biggest enemy of your wealth is inflation. It eats into the value of your savings like a parasite. It grows with money and also eats into the value. Investment helps you beat inflation each year. The effect of wealth creation is not overnight; you need discipline and patience to achieve the objective. Regular investment in an index fund or an exchange-traded fund that tracks the performance of the BSE Sensex and Nifty can help you create wealth over 15-20 years. That is called index investing. Just like you would set aside a portion of your monthly surplus for the future and buy gold or a fixed deposit, you may want to look at index investing.

Even if you do index investing regularly, it will help you beat inflation and create wealth over the long term. It has happened in America before in the 80s and 90s, and there is no reason why Indian households cannot benefit from the rising values of the BSE Sensex and Nifty. Stock markets directly touch less than 2% of India's population. Mutual funds barely have 3.77 crore unique investors as of March 2023. That is under 3% of the population. A handful are benefiting from the stock market surge.

India's growth prospects are much better than most countries in the world. Average growth of 5-7% in the gross domestic product means companies can grow profits at twice the rate. That is a thumb rule in the stock market. Share prices usually trend in line with profits. If listed companies in the stock market keep growing profits yearly, share prices also grow. You just need to learn about that aspect and invest regularly.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Risks in investing

Just like reckless driving and swimming can cause harm to you, reckless investing can hurt you too. Investing without adequate knowledge or rumours is a bad idea. You must know where you are putting your hard-earned money. If you do not understand that, you need not invest. To understand that, you need to know a few basics to mitigate risks. You need to read up on the broader trend in the economy and the outlook for inflation and growth. That is no rocket science. The Reserve Bank of India regularly publishes a state of the economy report in the monthly bulletin. You just need to read the outlook. Risks to your stock market investing are from high inflation and interest rates. If RBI puts out a hawkish note suggesting a hardening of interest rates, that is no good news for corporate profits. On the other hand, if the RBI suggests a soft interest rate regime going forward, you could see stock market gains. Investing is an essential skill to learn. You may not commit everything to it. However, small steps through regular monthly investing can be your first steps. It will be a slow and steady march towards financial security.

MONEY-WISE

TWO SLICES IN ONE LARGE AND MID CAP FUNDS

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India.
He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com
(Views expressed here are personal)

AT a seminar I addressed recently, one of the young participants there asked me which category of mutual fund schemes I would recommend and why. My response was that while I was constrained not to recommend per se, category selection and weightage would usually be a function of the Life-Cycle stage of the investor.

She then proceeded to tell me that she had read that Large Cap funds are safer than Mid-Cap funds for investment and whether I concurred. I replied that it is widely believed to be so, theoretically at least and on the risk scales provided by Asset Management Companies. I was, however, surprised to learn that she was relatively unaware of the category of Large and Mid-Cap Funds.

Large and Mid-Cap Funds were introduced as a separate category of Equity Funds by SEBI in October2017. As opposed to a pure large cap fund or a mid cap fund, these funds have the leeway to diversify their investments with more moderate weightage across a single fund.

A Large and Mid Cap Fund, by definition, is a type of equity fund that invests at least 35% of its AUM in large cap stocks and another 35% in mid cap stocks with leeway to invest more thereafter in either or any category as well as in debt and money market instruments.As it is a pure equity fund, one must have a long term investment horizon while investing in this category, since like all pure equity funds, its risk multiplies if targeted for short term investments.

Like other equity funds, this category too is taxed at the rate of 10% for Long Term Capital Gains (LTCG) made on the sale of units priced at over ₹1 lakh, and 15% for Short Term Capital Gains (STCG) if the units are sold within the time period of 1 year from the date of allotment. These funds which effectively invest in the top 250 listed companies in terms of market capitalisation have the combined features of Large Cap and Mid Cap Funds which offer relatively better stability, balance of risk and potential for higher returns in the long term.

The usual Benchmark used for Large and Mid Cap Funds is the Nifty Large-Midcap 250 Index. Its performance for the 1 and 5 year period respectively are as follows:

Benchmarks	1 year Return (%)	5 year Return (%)
Nifty Large-Midcap 250 Index TRI	5.63	12.41

Some of the larger funds in terms of Assets Under Management (AUM) in this category include SBI Large & Midcap Fund, ICICI Prudential Large & Mid Cap Fund, HDFC Large and Mid Cap Fund, Kotak Equity Opportunities Fund and Axis Growth Opportunities Fund.

In the next column, we shall focus on the holding patterns, top industry wise investment weightages and the performances of a few randomly selected funds from this category over different time frames.

Cash spending highest during festivals: Report

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@Bengaluru

THE country witnessed the maximum cash usage and demand during the festive and wedding seasons between October and December in FY 2022, and during October, December and March of FY 2023, data from business service company CMS Info Systems showed.

The CMS India Cash Vibrancy Report 2023 highlights the importance of cash usage among consumers and its robust co-existence with digital payments in the country, and according to the report, the ATM cash withdrawal of ₹2.84 lakh crore in March 2023 is an absolute growth of 235% in a matter of 76 months after demonetisation. Data of average cash collected from Retail Cash Management (RCM) points split within the six key industry sectors reveal a 50:50 performance. Sectors within Transportation, Organised Retail and Banking & Financial services (BFSI) sectors saw an annual increase of 38.7%, 14.4% and 5.6% each during FY 2023. The report added that at $421 billion in 2021, the country saw the third-highest annual growth of 7.9% in CIC(currency in circulation), while UK (+11.8%) and China (+10.2%) respectively saw the highest and second-highest annual growth over 2020.

After touching 8.7% in 2016, India's CIC to GDP ratio has averaged close to 12.4% which is higher than the 10-year average of 11.8%.

Anush Raghavan, President, Cash Management Services, CMS Info Systems said, "The report demonstrates the relevance and importance of cash in the Indian economy. We have seen 10.1% growth in monthly average cash replenishment at ATMs and a strong 1.3X increase in average cash collection per point with e-commerce companies in FY23". Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Uttar Pradesh together accounted for 43.1% of the total ATM cash replenished by CMS Info Systems across the country in FY 2023.

Market remains bullish; Nifty may try breaching 18,600 level

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

WITH no significant domestic events likely this week, the equity markets may take cue from global events – especially from the development in the US, where the debt ceiling crisis is still unfolding. The 50-stock NSE index Nifty, which closed shy of 18,500 level on Friday, may try to breach the 18,600 levels this week.

The Sensex, which closed at 62,501 on Friday last, may target 63,000 levels and beyond. Buoyed by the positive monsoon prediction by IMD and a decent Q4FY23 earnings, equity markets made decent gains last week.

The Nifty gained 249 points or 1.36%, while the BSE Sensex gained around 0.9% in the past week. BSE Midcap Index gained 2.15%, while BSE SmallCap Index gained 0.68%.

The positive monsoon prediction by IMD has boosted market sentiment, leading to gains in various sectors, says Prashanth Tapse, vice-president (Research), Mehta Equities.

IMD has predicted a slow start but overall, it sees a normal monsoon this year. Indian markets were also boosted by decent Q4 earnings numbers. "Indian equity markets were buoyed by a decent Q4FY23 earnings print, even though the quality of earnings was weak," says Shrikant Chouhan, Head of Equities Research (Retail), Kotak Securities Ltd.

According to him, going forward, the equity markets will focus on the macro trends.

"Markets going ahead may be dominated by global news flows and steps taken by different governments to tackle their economy," added Chauhan.

Global markets were mixed last week as concerns around the US debt ceiling and a weak global growth outlook persisted. According to Chauhan, Indian equity markets remained concerned about growth prospects, even as inflation continued its downward trajectory both globally and domestically.

According to Aditi Nayar, chief economist, Head of Research & Outreach, ICRA Ltd, the GDP growth may moderate to 6% in FY2024, with a downside risk of up to 50 bps from the materialisation of El Nino conditions, even as frontloaded capex by the GoI and the states and a rapid execution of infra projects could provide an upside.

However, experts feel the overall market outlook remains optimistic, with the Nifty aiming for new highs while maintaining support at 18200.

ICICI to raise stake in gen insurance biz above 50%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

THE board of ICICI Bank has decided to increase its shareholding in ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited by 4% in multiple tranches, and make the general insurance company its subsidiary.

The bank Board, which met on Sunday, decided to acquire at least 2.5% stake out of the 4% before 9 September 2024, the deadline for divesting the bank's shareholding in ICICI Lombard General Insurance to less than 30% of the company's paid-up capital.

As per the banking rules, no bank should hold shares in any company exceeding 30% of the paid-up share capital of that company unless the company is a subsidiary of the bank. ICICI Bank currently holds 48.02% in ICICI Lombard. A 2.5% increase in holding before 9 September 2024 would take the bank's shareholding in the company above 50%, a condition for a firm to become a subsidiary of another.

ICICI Bank had 55.86% stake in the general insurance company as of 31 March 2020. However, it divested its stake in tranches in the next three years bringing it down to 48.02%. This necessitated the bank to follow Section 19(2) of the Banking Regulation Act, limiting its exposure in the company to 30%.

RBI had on 10 March 2023 granted an extension of the deadline to adhere to Section 19 (2) rules to 9 September 2024. Meanwhile, the shareholders have approved the appointment of Sandeep Batra as executive director of the bank for a period of five years effective from the date of approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The effective date of the same was from December 23, 2020.

New executive director

Shareholders have approved the appointment of Sandeep Batra as executive director of the bank for a period of five years effective from the date of approval of the RBI.

Verstappen leads from start to finish to win Monaco GP

Max Verstappen led all the way from pole position to the chequered flag to win the Monaco Grand Prix on Sunday and increase his lead in the F1 driver standings. Despite brushes with the track walls, the Dutch Red Bull driver finished comfortably ahead of Spanish veteran Fernando Alonso in an Aston Martin with Frenchman Esteban Ocon third for Alpine.

Failed talks with Home Min, wrestlers vow to continue

Delegation comprising Sakshi and her husband met Amit Shah with seven-point demand letter; calls for immediate arrest of Brij Bhushan sticking point

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

A DAY before their detention on Sunday, a delegation from the protesting wrestlers met Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi. The delegation comprising Sakshi Malik and her husband Satyawart Kadian apart from a few other members apparently had prepared a seven-point demand letter. However, the meeting could not be fructified as the wrestlers demanded the immediate arrest of the former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

Sombir Sangwan, an independent MLA from Charkhi Dadri, Haryana, told this daily that a meeting took place on Saturday evening. "The demand letter was prepared in consultation with the wrestlers. I along with Acharya Devvrat, Governor of Gujarat, facilitated the talk between the home minister and the wrestlers. I told Shah about the demand including the arrest of Brij Bhushan. The only condition was that he will be arrested once the Delhi police submit a chargesheet in court as per law. But wrestlers wanted an immediate arrest and that was where the talks failed," Sombir told this daily.

Sombir, who is also Sangwan Khap Pradhan (head), is one of the several Khap leaders who extended support to the wrestlers. One such Khap is Sarv Jatiya Sarv Khap Mahapanchayat. Its national president Dr Santosh Dahiya also confirmed the development but said that immediate arrest should have been made as a case has been registered under POCSO Act against Brij Bhushan. "How can they not arrest him immediately? The law says so," Dr Dahiya told this daily.

Even Dahiya was detained at her house in Kurukshetra, Haryana. She was supposed to join wrestlers for the 'Mahila Samman Mahapanchayat' scheduled to be held in front of the new Parliament building on Sunday morning. "I tried to leave my home at 4:30 in the morning but was not allowed. The cops deployed here asked me not to leave home and said I will be arrested and kept in the nearby police station if I don't abide by the order."

Dahiya said she has been trying to contact wrestlers but to no avail. "The oppressive tactics of the government will not be able to deter us from seeking justice for these champion wrestlers. I don't where they have been taken by the cops as I could not talk to them till now. But the protest does not end here. I will meet the wrestlers and chalk out future strategies with them. The mahapanchayat will be held. The venue and date will be announced soon. This action by the government has emboldened us not to give up. We will intensify the protest as now whole country is standing with us," said Dahiya.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Sakshi Malik and Bajrang Punia (R) being detained by police during the march in New Delhi on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI

Sad day for Indian sports: Sakshi

What they said...

A fair few sportspersons, former and present, expressed their anguish at the way the wrestlers were treated to on Sunday. Some reactions

Krishna Poonia, former athlete

The most shameful video of Indian sports and democracy. I condemn the manner in which police dragged our gold medallist wrestlers who have brought laurels for our country and in this fight for truth and justice, I stand with my sisters, she tweeted.

Manoj Tiwary, former cricketer

So, this is what you call #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav? Shame! The nation is with you #wrestlers!

Neeraj Chopra, Olympic champion

This video saddens me. There has to be a better way to deal with this.

UJWAL JALALI @ New Delhi

DELHI police on Sunday foiled wrestlers' plan to hold 'Mahila Samman Mahapanchayat' in front of the new Parliament building. The wrestlers, including Olympic medallists Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik, and double World Championships medallist Vinesh Phogat, have been protesting at the Jantar Mantar since April 23 demanding the arrest of Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

Singh was accused of sexual harassment and Delhi police have registered two FIRs against him on complaints of seven women wrestlers including a minor.

Demanding immediate arrest, the wrestlers tried to march toward the new Parliament building but could not succeed. In their attempt to breach the security cordon, a few of them including Sakshi even jumped off the barricades. However, all their attempts to dodge the police went in vain. The cops bundled them on the buses before taking them to different locations. The police action against the wrestlers triggered massive outrage on social media with the opposition leaders and people lashing out at the union government. Enraged over the treatment meted out to her and fellow wrestlers, Sakshi said that it was a 'sad day' for Indian Sports. "A sexual abuser and goon, Brij Bhushan, is sitting in Parliament today and we are being dragged on the road. Sad day for Indian sports," she said.

Pertinent to mention here that BJP MP Singh attended the inauguration of the new Parliament building even as India's top wrestlers protesting against him were allegedly manhandled and detained only a couple of kilometres from the venue.

Delhi Commission for Women chairperson Swati Maliwal deplored 'manhandling' of protesting wrestlers by the Delhi police and wrote a letter to Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora demanding an immediate arrest of WFI chief Singh.

Dhoni, even at 41, is the only jersey in town

GOMESH S @ Ahmedabad

IT'S 4 PM in Ahmedabad on Sunday and unlike the hours to come, the Sun is still beating down. Vehicular entry to the Narendra Modi Stadium is stopped around 650m from the main entrace.

Fans have already started coming, with the cabs and autos dropping them at the intersection from which they will have to walk a few minutes to get to the entrance.

The mood through the 650m walk is clear — all yellow. On the road leading to the Stadium, there are vendors selling knockoff jerseys of Chennai Super Kings and Gujarat Titans, especially the former. And with every vendor, you can see a group of fans bargaining their way to a cheap yellow shirt. All you can hear through the walk are shouts of 'Dhoni Dhoni,' and CSK, CSK shirt' from the vendors. One of them shouts *'Aaya Dhoni Aaya*, lelo Chennai shirt' (Dhoni has come to Ahmedabad, come and buy the CSK jersey).

Ashish Parjapathi, a local vendor who paints names and logos of teams on faces for every IPL game in Ahmedabad, says that Chennai and Dhoni have been the difference from other games to the final. In fact, he even wants Dhoni to lift the trophy. Deepak Drdbr, another vendor who paints, says, "We have a lot of fans here (in Ahmedabad) for Dhoni. We love Dhoni and have to support Chennai Super Kings. The other day had 95 per cent Gujarat fans, today (Sunday) we will have 95 per cent support for Chennai." He may be 41, but he remains very popular.

It is not just the locals. Chandra, another vendor, has travelled all the way from Avadi, Chennai in a desperate attempt to sell whatever is left of the Chennai jerseys and caps she has. "We sold flags and jerseys in all the Chennai games at Chepauk (MA Chidambaram Stadium), we also travelled to Hyderabad and Bengaluru for Chennai games. This is the first time I am here in Gujarat. We have come as a group of 20 people. We did not expect so many people to sell Chennai T-shirts. If we had known, we probably would not have come," she says. The most popular name on the back of the jersey is no surprise. Dhoni.

Some of the vendors, in a tempo, were giving away Titans' jerseys for free with fans chasing them down. As the evening went by, rain made thousands of fans who had come in early wait anxiously. Such was the intermittent nature of the storms that the moment the rain slowed down, you could hear a massive roar with fans running towards the lower stands.

When hopes of a start were raised after the rains stopped at 9 PM, the chants began again as the teams started training. The support for Chennai might not be 95 per cent as Drdbr said, but the chants of "CSK... CSK" and "Dhoni.. Dhonii" surely engulfed 'Hardik Hardik' in the stands.

However, another storm cell moved into the Stadium to leave the fans disappointed. It was that kind of a day.

(top) Fans sporting Dhoni jersey outside the stadium. A vendor selling CSK jersey | EXPRESS

Fans get drenched waiting for the final to begin at Ahmedabad. The contest was moved to reserve day (Monday) | SPORTZPIC

PROCESS, CHENNAI'S CATCH-ALL PHRASE

GOMESH S @ Ahmedabad

IT had become routine on a rain-soaked night at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Sunday. The sound of thunder and the constant pitter-patter would dampen the mood of the fans, some of whom had begun coming into concourse as early as 4.00 PM. Whenever the rains stopped, the chants and the cheers returned. Most of them had remained optimistic of watching the Indian Premier League (IPL) — even if a rain-affected one — but once an intense storm cell moved in after 9.00 PM, they had given way to find some shelter amid the intense downpour.

Some had found shelter under the banners they had brought with them. They were anxious and nervous. Most of them had come from across the country to get a glimpse of MS Dhoni, presuming that this could be his last game.

However, it is not only the fans who were nervous. CSK head coach Stephen Fleming admitted his nervousness as well. The dream of winning the trophy again, for the fifth time, is not something that can be taken easily. Their goal at the beginning of the tournament was to be a part of the final. They were here, on the brink of getting hold of the trophy. What stands between them? Titans and rain.

Make no mistake there is a reserve day, and the weather for Monday seems iffy at the moment. However, should it rain through the reserve day as well, without even a possibility of a Super Over, Titans will take the trophy as they finished on top of the points table in the league stage.

Which is why, it is understandable why Fleming was nervous. After all, it is a tournament CSK looked like a team that could be beaten on any given day. They were defeated thrice at home in seven league games, which is not something you would associate with them. Unlike the previous decade where they were filled with superstars, or even the 2021 season which they dominated through and through, this year, at least until the initial phase of the second innings was over, you could not tell if they would win or not. And yet, they finished second in the points table for a reason.

Fleming repeated that magic word in Indian cricket. Process. He underlined the need to be realistic as the gaps between the teams have become closer over the years on a given day. "We are realistic about how difficult it is to get to this stage. The greatest challenge of this competition is when you get a new team that's going really well, you've got to disband, and you can only keep four players. The fact that we've been able to stay consistent with those rules in place is something we look back very proudly on," he had said on Saturday.

This season, they have done it with a bunch of unconventional stars coming together with their regular players in fixed roles. Shivam Dube, the designated spin-hitter. Devon Conway, the anchor. Matheesha Pathirana, the death bowler. The list goes on.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

RAIN SCENARIOS FOR MONDAY

- Gujarat will win title if there's no play whatsoever as they topped the table.
- Similar rain cutoffs like Sunday will be in play, including a provision for Super Over which should begin no later than 12.50 AM on Tuesday.
- Just like Sunday, the match will start losing overs if it begins after 9.30 PM

WEATHER WATCH

Scheduled to be a warm day with increasing cloud cover as the day progresses. Chances of severe thunderstorms like Sunday is high but it won't be as intense as the one on Sunday

EXPRESS READ

India play out 1-1 draw against Pakistan

SALALAH (OMAN): India played out a thrilling 1-1 draw against arch-rivals Pakistan in their third Pool A game to continue their unbeaten run in the men's Junior Asia Cup hockey tournament in Salalah here. Sharda Nand Tiwari (24th minute) gave India the lead in the high-stake match on late Saturday night but it was nullified by Basharat Ali in the 44th minute.

Rayudu announces retirement from IPL

AHMEDABAD: Former India ODI specialist and Chennai Super Kings regular Ambati Rayudu announced that the IPL final against Gujarat Titans will be his last game. Rayudu, who had retired from international cricket after being overlooked for the 2019 World Cup, had a couple of years back announced his retirement from domestic cricket only to retract his decision later.

Hurdler Yarraji clocks claims gold in Germany

NEW DELHI: National record holder Jyothi Yarraji ran her second career-best 100m hurdles race to win gold at the Kurpfalz Gala event at Weinheim in Germany. The 23-year-old clocked 12.84s at the World Athletics Continental Tour Challenger level meet, just a tad outside her national record time of 12.82s.

Ukraine's Kostyuk jeered, Tsitsipas survives scare

AFP @Paris

ARYNA Sabalenka won a politically-charged French Open duel against Marta Kostyuk on Sunday as jeers rained down on the defeated Ukrainian who refused to shake hands with her Belarusian opponent.

World No 2 and Australian Open champion Sabalenka swept 10 of the last 12 games to win 6-3, 6-2 as she kickstarted her push to reach the second week in Paris for the first time.

Kostyuk honoured her pledge not to shake hands with Sabalenka in protest at Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Belarus is a key military ally of Moscow. "It was a very tough match, tough emotionally. I didn't know if the booing was against me but thank you so much for your support, it's really important," said Sabalenka who apologised for her exaggerated, theatrical bow to the Court Philippe Chatrier crowd.

Kostyuk, 20, famously refused to shake hands with Sabalenka's Belarusian compatriot and former World No 1 Victoria Azarenka at the US Open last year. She opted instead for a cursory touch of racquets at the net.

The 39th-ranked Kostyuk, who has been a vociferous critic of the decision to allow Russian and Belarusian players to keep competing on tour since the invasion of her country, questioned the crowd's motives in booing her stance.

Greek fifth seed Stefanos Tsitsipas, who blew a two-set lead to lose the 2021 final to Novak Djokovic, made the second round Sunday with a 7-5, 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (7) win over Jiri Vesely, the 455th-ranked Czech.

Stefanos Tsitsipas reacts after beating Jiri Vesely on Sunday | AFP

Select results

(Rd 1): Men: S Tsitsipas (GRE x5) bt J Vesely (CZE) 7-5, 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (7); H Hurkacz (POL x13) bt D Goffin (BEL) 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4; K Khachanov (x11) bt C Lestienne (FRA) 3-6, 1-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-3; T Kokkinakis (AUS) bt D Evans (GBR x20) 6-4, 6-4, 6-4. **Women:** N Podoroska (ARG) bt J Ponchet (FRA) 6-0, 6-2; S Sanders (AUS) bt N Parrizas Diaz (ESP) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; M Frech (POL) bt Z Shuai (CHN x29) 6-1, 6-1; A Sabalenka (x2) bt M Kostyuk (UKR) 6-3, 6-2.

Leicester and Leeds relegated

AGENCIES @London

Leicester and Leeds were relegated from the Premier League as Everton won the fight for survival on a dramatic final day of the season on Sunday. Everton's 1-0 win against Bournemouth condemned Leicester and Leeds to join already-relegated Southampton in the Championship next season.

Leicester, PL champions just seven years ago, crashed into the second tier for the first time since 2014 despite their 2-1 win against West Ham. Leeds' three-year stay in the top-flight ended with a 4-1 defeat vs Tottenham.

NET GAINS

Master performance by shuttler Prannoy

ENS/AGENCIES @Kuala Lumpur

HS Prannoy has been one of the most potent men's singles players from the country for over a year or so. The BWF World Rankings reflect the same. He seems to be playing with a lot of authority and is becoming adept at keeping his calm during crunch moments of the game and finishing off his rivals. That was evident on Sunday as he showed steely focus in the dying stages of the match against China's Weng Hong Yang in the final of the Malaysia Masters Super 500 tournament in Kuala Lumpur.

With the match in balance, Prannoy took charge towards the end of the thrilling contest, which went the distance, to see off Weng and pocket the title. Prannoy won 21-19, 13-21, 21-18 in 94 minutes. Saying this was a massive outcome would be an understatement as this was Prannoy's maiden BWF (Badminton World Federation) World Tour title. The BWF World Tour is divided into six levels, namely World Tour Finals, four Super 1000, six Super 750, seven Super 500, and 11 Super 300 in order. One other category of tournament, the BWF Tour Super 100 level, also offers ranking points. From India's perspective, this is a welcome win as the singles players had had a quiet 2023.

Prannoy was instrumental in India's epic Thomas Cup victory last year but an individual title has eluded him since the 2017 US Open Grand Prix Gold. The Kerala shuttler had come close to breaking his title drought when he reached the finals at Swiss Open last year and signed off at the semifinal stage in Malaysia and the Indonesia Super 1000.

Sunday's win was HS Prannoy's first BWF World Tour title | AFP

UPCOMING EXAMINATIONS

SECOND NATA EXAM	IES/ISS EXAM	ENGINEERING SERVICES (MAIN)
Date: June 3	Date: June 23	Date: June 25

JEE Advanced 2023

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH AHEAD

Attempting JEE Advanced? Then surely you are thinking about IITs. Here are some tips that can help

IIT is that time of the year when aspirants need to give their best to make it into an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT). The Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced 2023 is almost here and so is the conundrum of selecting the right IIT for students who qualify the tough exam. However, choosing can be a tricky task, considering the number of choices available, couple this with the fact that less than one-fifth of the students who write JEE Advanced get a seat in an IIT. Thus, it is important to make sure one considers all the relevant aspects before deciding.

The most important factor — rank of the institute

Experts say it is better to apply to the five old IITs, namely, Bombay, Madras, Delhi, Kharagpur and Kanpur. Not only are these institutes at the top of the NIRF (National Institutional Ranking Framework) ranking list, but they also guarantee good exposure and network building.

Suresh M, Managing Partner, Scholar Spectra Educational Coaching Institute, Puducherry, advises students to look into both national and international rankings to assess the standing of each IIT.

Opening & closing ranks of various branches

Prathap Haridoss, Dean of Academic Courses at IIT Madras, says, "We see that students take the opening and closing ranks for the branches very seriously. Ranks should be a deciding factor, but not the only factor." He mentioned students often don't apply to a course fearing they wouldn't get in on the basis of previous year's cut-offs, a practice that needs to be avoided.

"A student's career will not be based on the opening and closing ranks. They are opting for an IIT for learning and growth. So my advice would be not to stress over the ranks. Students should analyse what they are really interested in, both academically and otherwise," he adds.

A worthy branch

right pick

Nitin Vijay, an alumnus of IIT-BHU and Founder/CEO of Motion Education, a coaching institute at Kota, Rajasthan, opines that choosing a good course is the most important factor.

He explains with an example: If a student is eligible for a Civil course at IIT Bombay and an Electrical course at IIT Delhi, since the Electrical branch has more opportunities, it is wiser to choose that, though IIT Bombay is better than IIT Delhi. "Hence, opting for a course can open up more lucrative opportunities," he says.

Anupam Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, IIT Hyderabad, agrees. He states that it is better to choose an emerging branch like Computer Science (CS) at a National Institute of Technology (NIT) than forcing oneself to opt for traditional courses like Mechanical Engineering at the top IITs.

However, "It is better to opt for a seat at a second-tier branch in an old IIT than a first-tier branch at a new IIT," opines Pranav Jeevan, a PhD scholar at IIT Bombay and an alumnus of IIT Kanpur. He also advises students against compromising on their branch of choice.

"Even if one is unable to land a chosen branch, many IITs provide the flexibility of choosing a minor subject in third year. Students can opt for this in their chosen branch and can pursue a job in that field after the completion of their course," the scholar adds.

Traversing cities

Nitin suggests students to research a little on which city they would like to stay in, as they would be away from home for four years or more. "It will be very crucial in shaping their personality and at the same time, help them acquire and hone new skill set," he says.

Though it is a personal choice, Pranav suggests students opt for IITs which are not located close to where they stay. "This will give them a chance to meet new people and communities," he says.

The desire to research

Though the experts agree that research is not a factor that a BTech student needs to consider initially, Haridoss mentions that students tend to incline towards research during their time at the IITs. "They also have projects to finish in their final year, during which, they need to work in the lab," he adds.

Thus, research to an extent, is important when choosing an IIT, if a student is research-oriented or wishes to work abroad. The experts suggest students check what the faculty of various IITs are pursuing. "Strong faculty members and research facilities can greatly enhance the learning experience and provide valuable exposure to cutting-edge research," Suresh adds.

Sharing his own experience, Akash Ramineni, a second-year BTech student from IIT Indore, narrates that he was recently associated with a project on sewage treatment at IIT Guwahati and participated in a conference held there. He says that this provided him with a lot of exposure to the field of Environmental Engineering, in general.

BEYOND BOOKS AND TOWARDS PLACEMENTS

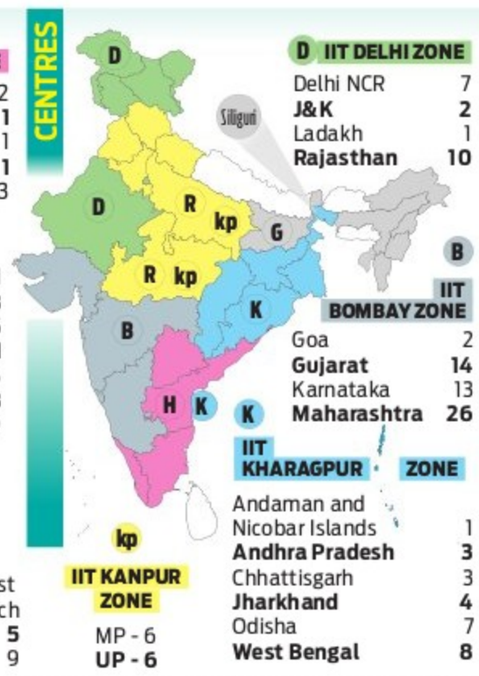
Nitin says that analysis of the placement opportunity of a particular course at a particular institute is crucial. "Students should review the placement trend of the past three to four years to get a clear picture of the average pay package one could get with the minimum and most basic resumé," he says. Experts also mention that academics at the IITs, especially the top IITs, are more or less the same. However, they state that the perks like having the option of choosing electives, course-related co-curricular activities and financial aids can help with deciding

JEE (ADVANCED) CANDIDATES 2022 SUMMARY

Category	Registered	Appeared	Qualified	Offered
General	38868	37643	15111	6369
Gen - PwD	564	537	166	108
OBC-NCL	57443	55971	9205	4445
OBC-NCL-PwD	580	567	136	93
GEN-EWS	24458	23928	4979	1850
GEN-EWS-PwD	181	176	53	33
SC	26009	25207	7984	2485
SC-PwD	85	80	14	9
ST	11817	11397	3058	1238
ST-PwD	33	32	6	5
Total	**160038**	**155538**	**40712**	**16635**

MARKS OF FIRST RANKED CANDIDATES IN EACH CATEGORY

Rank List	Rank	Maths	Physics	Chemistry	Total
CRL (Common Rank List)	1	109	96	109	314
GEN-EWS	1	91	98	103	292
OBC-NCL	1	86	103	110	299
SC	1	78	77	88	243
ST	1	46	71	67	184



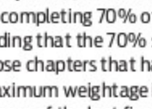
CATEGORY-WISE LAST RANK CANDIDATE OFFERED ADMISSION

RANK LIST	Rank (Gender Neutral)	Rank (Female & Supernumerary)
CRL	19296	27425
GEN-EWS	3181	4864
OBC-NCL	6554	9203
SC	3316	4348
ST	1502	1554
CRL-PwD	178	182
GEN-EWS-PwD	26	—
OBC-NCL-PwD	59	55
SC-PwD/ST-PwD	4	—

POST JEE ADVANCED

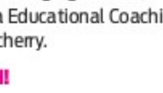
- Copy of candidate responses to be available on the JEE (Advanced) 2023 website - Friday, June 9, 2023 (5.00 pm)
- Online display of provisional answer keys - Sunday, June 11, 2023 (10.00 am) Feedback and comments on provisional answer keys from the candidates - Sunday, June 11, 2023 (10:00 am) to Monday, June 12, 2023 (5.00 pm)
- Online declaration of final answer key and results of JEE (Advanced) 2023 - Sunday, June 18, 2023 (10.00 am)
- Online registration for Architecture Aptitude Test (AAT) 2023 - Sunday, June 18, 2023 (10.00 am) to Monday, June 19, 2023 (5.00 pm)
- Tentative Start of Joint Seat Allocation (JoSAA) 2023 Process - Monday, June 19, 2023 (5.00 pm)
- Architecture Aptitude Test (AAT) 2023 - Wednesday, June 21, 2023 (9.00 am to 12:00 noon)
- Declaration of results of AAT 2023 - Saturday, June 24, 2023 (5.00 pm)

ENOUGH ABOUT ACADEMICS. WHAT CLUBS DO THESE IITS HAVE?

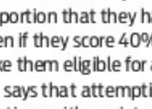


IIT Kanpur
Adventures Club, Joggers Club, Aero-modelling club, Society of Automotive Engineers, Gliders Club, Astronomy Club & others

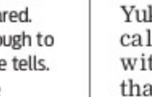
IIT Madras
Vibrant community programmes — Sabhas and Samitis, Thespian Club, E-Sports Club, Film Appreciation Club, Design & VFX Club, others and a Hi-Tech sports Complex



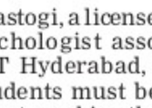
IIT Hyderabad
Kludge (Information Security & Networking Club), Torque (Automobile Engineering & Design Club), Prakriti (Nature Club), Vibes (Music Club), Gesture (Arts and Craft Club)



IIT Kharagpur
Technology Literary Society (TLS), Technology Filmmaking & Photography Society (TFPS), Spectra - The fine arts and design group, Aroma: Technology arts culinary society, Technology Comedy Club



IIT Indore
Programming Clubs, Developer Students Club, Srijan (Hindi Poetics Club), Avana (Social Activism Club)



IIT Guwahati
Achorenza (anchoring Club), Cadence (Dance Club), Xpressions (Drama Club), Fine Arts Club, Consulting and Analytics Club, The Artificial Intelligence Community

Fostering innovation

How IIT helps innovators after academic pursuits conclude

LEARN from IIT-educated business owners as they share experiences and insights into how their time at various Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) shaped their perspective, preparing them to pursue innovative entrepreneurial endeavours and make a meaningful impact.

Hub for budding entrepreneurs

Sneha Biswas is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Early Steps Academy, an online platform that teaches essential skills outside school and deals with subjects that include Entrepreneurship, SpaceTech and beyond. She is also a student of IIT Kharagpur and an MBA (Master in Business Administration) graduate from Harvard Business School. She shares, "One big factor that helped shape my entrepreneurial mindset was the company I founded. Like-minded people who were equally ambitious and hardworking inspired me. The environment at an IIT fosters creativity, leadership and inspires students to take up bigger challenges in life."

Vikram Aditya, CEO and Co-Founder of DAOLens that operates in a crypto setup as SAS (software as a service), is a Bachelor of Design graduate from IIT Guwahati. He says, "The benefit of being an IITian is that it increases the number of opportunities you get and is more likely to catapult you to the first step of your career."

Ravi Kaushik, CEO & Founder of Airth, the world's first antimicrobial air purifier which was developed at IIT Bombay and IIT Kanpur, and an MTech in Environmental Engineering and Technology from IIT Bombay, says that the entrepreneurial environment of the IITs has developed a lot with changes in the policies.

The innovator adds that now, entrepreneurship courses are taught along with academics by qualified individuals. Students have the option to defer their placements for a year, allowing them ample time to explore diverse entrepreneurial activities upon completing their four-year programme.

There are people who, albeit not having an IIT background, did perform well after joining the companies. So I believe that IITs are mostly about opportunities and exposure in their early days — Vikram Aditya

Getting into IIT was the toughest part. Between problem solving, schoolwork, coaching, sleepless nights and knowing how to perform amidst stress — the IIT entrance prep taught me a lot — Sneha Biswas

Aiming for the IITs

"I personally do not think students need to prepare for IIT for many years. But yes, the journey is going to be difficult — the preparation especially. And it is totally worth it," says Vikram Aditya.

The entrepreneur says, "When you are preparing for IITs, remember what you are preparing for is to go to a place that will inspire you to pursue larger goals in life. You might or might not end up being an engineer forever, but the learnings from this phase of life will be with you forever. They will be your fuel for life."

Cogs in the wheel of change

When we ask Sneha Biswas about how being an IITian brought about a change within her, she says, "My journey at IIT helped me in many ways. From opening doors to fantastic opportunities — like internships and first jobs — to receiving mentorship from professors to most importantly, gaining access to a really smart bunch of people who have become my life-long friends, career advisors, guides and role models."

Ravi Kaushik emphasises the importance of the availability of research opportunities. There are incubation centres that help with funding and mentorship is offered by industry experts who have hands-on experience of over 15 years.

Developing the zeal for innovation

"When you are at a place like IIT, you realise that you are not the smartest one in the room and that's a very humbling feeling. This pushes you to work even harder — a skill for any entrepreneur. The experiences and exposure through my early life and later on, studying at an IIT, led me to find a job in the world's largest oilfield services company in the world, enabling me to work across the USA, the UK, India and Africa. I then went to Harvard Business School where I started my education venture, Early Steps Academy," says Sneha.

Sneha postulates that IIT led her to understand that one cannot give up after tasting success, and of course, for her, clearing IIT wasn't enough. It only pushed her to do more and take risks and that is exactly how she left her high-paying job in the US and started her own company.

CRACKING IT

With the right attitude and the right tips, it is not difficult to crack the exam, **JEE experts say**

With only a few days left to prepare for the big day, JEE coaches advise students to stay motivated. With the right plan and the right approach, gearing up for the exam could be easy, they say.

PIECES OF SYLLABUS

get ready

MN Rao, a JEE coach, suggests that students shouldn't panic about completing the syllabus. "Instead of preparing 100% of the syllabus, students should focus on completing 70% of it," he says, adding that the 70% should constitute those chapters that have carried the maximum weightage in question papers of the last five years.

SOLVING THE PROBLEMS

"Consistent practice is key to success in JEE Advanced. Students should solve as many problems as possible and revise the concepts regularly. They should also take mock tests and analyse their performance to identify their strengths and weaknesses," says Suresh M, Managing Partner, Scholar Spectra Educational Coaching Institute, Puducherry.

NO EXERTION!

At the same time, Rao advises students to stick to a limited number of books and not unnecessarily go through numerous study materials. He also advises students against spending too much time at coaching centres. "Coaching centres conduct grand tests for six hours almost every day, which leaves no time for self-study," he states.

BREAKS ARE THE BEST

Though the preparation is hectic and tough, the experts advise students to take recreational breaks. "Students should also take breaks and engage in activities that they enjoy to avoid burnout," Suresh says

ACCURACY ON D-DAY

Experts suggest that students should focus on accuracy rather than concentrating on finishing the question paper. "JEE Advanced rewards accuracy over speed. Students should focus on getting the right answer rather than rushing to complete the paper. They should read the questions carefully and understand them before attempting to solve them," Suresh says.
Students should learn to manage their time along with focussing on solving the easier questions first and the difficult ones later.

NEGATIVITY AT BAY

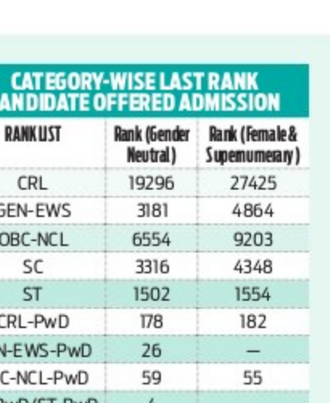
Rao adds that students should focus on attempting 50% of the question paper with 100% accuracy from the 70% of the portion that they have prepared. "Even if they score 40%, it is enough to make them eligible for a seat," he tells. Rao says that attempting all the questions with anxiety will not help as there is negative marking, which should be avoided. "If the paper is hard, it is hard for everyone. One should not panic and try to solve everything," he states.

The IIT Dream

Cracking admissions to get into an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) is one thing, but choosing an IIT based on your mental health needs is another. Both require persistence and demand much from our mental health.

But even before making the choice or attempting the exam comes a list of important questions — do you know what you want to do with your professional life? Are you ready for the grind?

Here are a few pointers that aspiring students should take into consideration before aspiring devotedly for an IIT. Mental health experts share their wisdom and illuminate the path ahead.



mind matters

Attempting the exam

Yukti Rastogi, a licensed clinical psychologist associated with IIT Hyderabad, shares that students must be confident about cracking the exam. Any persisting fear that they might have regarding not being able to crack the examination might prove detrimental.

On coping with failures, the clinical psychologist asserts, "Getting into an IIT requires passion and the need to grow. Thus, students have to be prepared for failure. Everyone is a topper in an IIT and everyone is bound to fail in some area or another. They have to accept their failures and seek social and emotional support from family, friends and others."

Never pursue brand, go after passion

Yukti says, "Students have to ask themselves why they want to get into only an IIT and not any other college. They also have to ask themselves why they want to be an engineer. They have to understand their interests and be informed. Only then will they be able to understand the system of IITs and survive."

Acceptance towards a bigger, better vision

Alisha Lalljee, a psychologist and special educator from Mumbai, talks about how a student should be accepting of the situation, no matter the outcome. She says, "Acceptance should come forth when indulging in the whole process of admissions and counselling. They must remember that the quality of education matters and never the location or the place. The outcome is never in our hands and one must always keep in mind their academic goal and not the destination."

She added that one must always find solutions to situations and have backup plans in order to brace for the situation confidently and positively. Yukti also emphasises three words, "persistence, perseverance and consistency."

Getting into an IIT is not the end of the journey, but a part of a bigger vision — Yukti Rastogi

One can always change their mindset and focus on being adaptable to the situation — Alisha Lalljee

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

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29.05.2023
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Observatory opened

The One World Trade Centre Observatory opened on this day in 2015 almost 15 years after the tragic attack on the World Trade Centre

REFERENCE

It was built to be the tallest structure in the USA and its architectural height (1776m) is a reference to the year that the US Declaration of Independence was signed

CONSTRUCTION

In December 2002, designs by Daniel Libeskind were selected as the winning entries of a competition run by the lower Manhattan Development Corporation

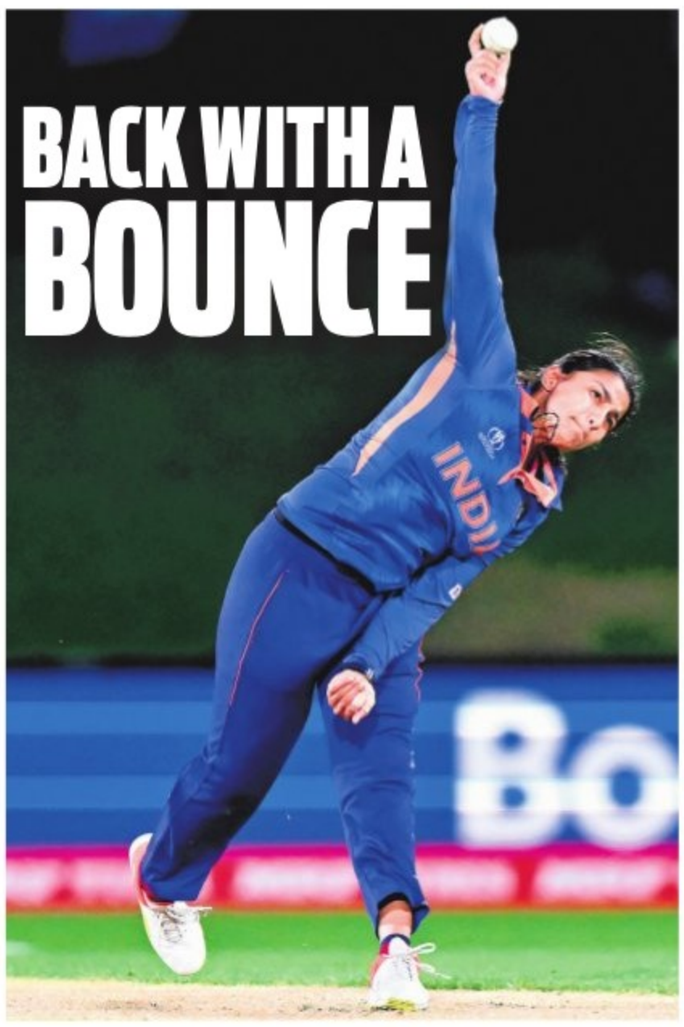
HIGHLIGHTS

Along with a spectacular view, visitors will see a video called 'Voices.' It was predicted that it would draw 3.3 million visitors annually

A Renewed Equation
PG 3

Cricketer Sneh Rana, who was in the city recently, speaks to *CE* about playing for India, captaining Gujarat Giants in the WPL and more

BACK WITH A BOUNCE



TUNIR BISWAS

AFTER a few roller-coaster years, cricketer **Sneh Rana** (29) is returning to make her mark again. This year has been a memorable one in her career – representing India at the 2023 ICC Women's T20 World Cup in the semifinals and captaining her team in the first season of the Women's Premier League (WPL). Recently visiting Bengaluru on behalf of Baseline, it is safe to say that Rana is back on the winning pitch.

"I am here as part of a month-long National Cricket Academy camp. I have often visited this city as most of our training camps happen here. I must say Bengaluru's cricketing infrastructure is top-notch, and there is a great environment for the sport. NCA itself is here, so that makes this city one of the best places to learn the game," says Rana.

2023 has been a highlight in her career. In the T20 World Cup in South Africa, even though Rana was originally in the reserves, she replaced fellow teammate Pooja Vastrakar in India's squad ahead of their semifinal match against Australia. "It's needless to say that to represent India at one of the biggest stages of the sport has always been a matter of pride for any athlete. I got to play in the semi-finals in South Africa, and it was a dream come true," shares Rana, who had also represented India in their 2022 ODI Women's Cricket World Cup held in New Zealand.

Not just an appearance at the T20 World Cup, this year also saw Rana captaining her side Gujarat Giants at the first-ever edition of the WPL in March. She got to lead her team after the Australian cricketer Beth Mooney was ruled out of the tournament owing to an injury she got during their opening match. Rana was originally appointed as the vice-captain. "It was a surreal experience to play my team in the WPL. We had been waiting for this league for a while now. I must say the leadership role, that I was bestowed, was a little challenging for me in the beginning, but I believe I adapted to it well. It was a great learning experience. Unlike your international matches, you get to play with foreign players and call them your teammates. I hope the future renditions of the tournament continue to exceed expectations," says the all-rounder.

Back in 2014, Rana was steadily going forward when a grave knee injury halted Rana's temporarily halted her career on the international stage. However, she believes for a sportsperson, injuries are just a part of the package. "For us, sports and injuries go hand in hand. Anyone can get hurt in their career, but how you choose to deal with it depends on your character. I think you can emerge stronger and better from an injury. Keep a positive mindset and never give up," advises the cricketer from Dehradun.

She believes the awareness around women's cricket has increased multi-fold since her starting days. "Back when I started, many didn't even know that women could pick up cricket professionally. I started in Uttarakhand, and since the state didn't have a cricketing association then, the challenges were plenty. I played a year in Haryana then had to go to Punjab, but despite the hurdles, I remained determined. So compared to that, women's cricket has come a long way. Thankfully, more and more women are choosing cricket professionally, and I hope the numbers continued to increase in the future," says Rana.

GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first prize winner this week will win a discount voucher worth ₹1,000 from Ovensay**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Navy beans (also known as Haricot Beans) 2) Tamarind 3) Thokku

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Rohith Sankar 2) Anilkumar J 3) Savitha Kiran

CITY READ

Men's fashion store launches women's wear collection

Bengaluru-based fashion brand P N RAO, known for men's suits, is launching a women's wear collection. On the occasion of their centennial year, the brand unveiled a glimpse of the collection, featuring eight garments across four segments: women's business wear, smart casuals, tuxedo/ ceremonial attire, and ethnic wear. The collection was showcased through a fashion show attended by prominent personalities from Bengaluru and executives from global fabric manufacturing brands. Additionally, P N RAO presented their centennial collection for men, comprising 10 styles and designs across the same segments. Initially, the bespoke women's wear range will be available at P N RAO's showrooms at MG Road and Indiranagar.

XPRESS FOCUS SMD INITIATIVE

Exemplary Results from Samarthanam School

Samarthanam Residential Higher Primary, High School And School For Children With Intellectual Disabilities & Speech And Hearing Impairments (Recognised By Govt Of Karnataka) recently celebrated exceptional achievements of their visually impaired students. It has also opened admissions for underprivileged children and those with disabilities for the academic year 2023-24.

Bhavana.M

Bhagamma

Samarthanam School recently announced the exceptional achievements of their visually impaired students, Bhavana.M and Bhagamma in the SSLC examinations.

Bhavana.M scored an impressive 97%, while Bhagamma achieved a commendable 96%.

"This success showcases the school's commitment to inclusivity and empowerment, providing state-of-the-art infrastructure and dedicated faculty to visually impaired and disabled students," said Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar, the Founder and Managing Trustee.

According to him, this achievement will only inspire other visually impaired students, highlighting their academic excellence and resilience. "It underscores the transformative power of education and Samarthanam School's dedication to breaking barriers and enabling fulfilling lives," he said.

Samarthanam School is now inviting applications for admissions for the upcoming academic year 2023-24. As a recognised school by the Government of Karnataka, Samarthanam School provides a barrier-free learning environment for children with intellectual disabilities, speech impairments, hearing impairments, and other disabilities.

This opportunity allows underprivileged children and children with disabilities to avail themselves of free education and unlock their potential.

The school's focus on creating an inclusive and empowering atmosphere, combined with its dedicated faculty and state-of-the-art infrastructure, ensures that every student receives the support they need to thrive and achieve their goals.

The outstanding performance of Bhavana.M and Bhagamma has received widespread recognition, highlighting the transformative impact of education and the dedication of Samarthanam School in providing equal opportunities.

The school continues to break down barriers and empower students to reach their fullest potential.

Prospective students and parents can find more information about admissions and the inclusive programs offered by Samarthanam School by visiting their official website at

www.samarthanam.org.
For more details, contact: Niranjan
Phone: 94808-35965
Email: media@samarthanam.org

IAS Baba Students Clinch Five of Top-20 Ranks

Mohan Kumar S, Founder & CEO of IAS Baba (centre) wishing Shruti Bhanu Prakash J - Rank 448 (right) and Yaragatti S - Rank 362 (left)

In the prestigious UPSC Civil Services Examination 2022-23, more than 220 students from IAS Baba secured ranks. Notably, Garima Lohia, mentored under the PEP program of IAS Baba, achieved an exceptional second rank. IAS Baba students have clinched five ranks out of top-20. Among the 28 rankers from Karnataka, 17 were students of IAS Baba.

The PEP program, an exam-based foundation course for UPSC Prelims offered by IAS Baba, focuses on building conceptual clarity and rigorous test-taking.

IAS Baba's famous 'Gurukul Classroom' programme saw 23 students appearing for the mains exam, with 10 advancing to the interview stage, and 8 securing ranks. This comprehensive coaching programme provides personalised guidance to a limited number of students in each batch, covering all three stages of the examination—prelims, mains, and interview.

Since its establishment in 2015, IAS Baba has been guiding UPSC aspirants and is headquartered in Bengaluru, with branches in Delhi, Lucknow, and Bhopal. The institute aims to provide quality training to aspirants from all corners of the country, equipping them with the skills needed to secure top ranks. In its first year, IAS Baba produced more than fifty ranks, and over the past seven years, it has helped over 1850 students achieve ranks.

Mohan Kumar S wishing Siddhalingappa K Pujar - Rank 589

FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT: https://iasbaba.com/

Mumbai-based Raghunandan Kamath, founder of Naturals Ice Cream, who was in Bengaluru for a recently-concluded convention, shares with *CE* about being an ice cream man

MELTING POT

DESE GOWDA

BEFORE India opened its doors to the rest of the world in the '90s, starting a successful business was a complicated affair. Despite the state's policies – often referred to with the pejorative term 'Licence Raj' – that were aimed at protecting homegrown businesses against foreign juggernauts, Indian entrepreneurs had to contend with miles of red tape.

But a son of a humble mango vendor from a small village in Dakshina Kannada managed to overcome those obstacles to create a lasting food & beverages empire that is still standing tall today. Founded in 1984 in a 250-sqft outlet in Juhu, Mumbai by Raghunandan Kamath, Natural Ice Cream has an annual turnover of nearly ₹300 crore and nearly 130 stores across the country, with Kamath's son Siddhanth taking active part in the business. That phenomenal success was all down to Kamath's innovative ideas that disrupted the existing market. Drawing inspiration from his childhood memories, he decided to experiment with flavours of ice creams that were vastly different (cucumber, jackfruit, pumpkin et al) from the regular affair of vanilla and chocolate that dominated the market until then.

"I decided to bring out the flavours from the food I ate growing up in my hometown. I used to eat snacks made out of cucumber, jackfruit, tender coconut when I was young. When I moved to Mumbai, I didn't have these snacks, but they still remained in my mind. And I thought to myself that I should incorporate these fruits into ice cream," says Kamath, one of the keynote speakers at the recently-concluded Proficorn 2023 MSME convention in the city.

Raghunanadan Kamath (left) with his son Siddhanth Kamath at the Proficorn MSME convention recently organised at Manyata Tech Park | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

When he started out, Kamath had nothing to lose. Hence, the decision to go against the mould to introduce unconventional flavours didn't seem like a risk. The key, he realised, was listening intently to the voices of those who indulged in his ice cream. "Never argue with customers," Kamath emphasises. "A place of business tends to get people from all walks of life from worldover, so they bring diverse experiences. You should be ready to learn from that feedback. Remember to listen to that single voice criticising your product. Not taking note is the worst thing to do."

> *In '84, the cucumber ice cream won a gold medal in the Great Indian Ice Cream Festival but it wasn't working as a product...It was like an art movie, it could get awards, but wouldn't sell*
>
> Raghunanadan Kamath, founder, Naturals Ice Cream

That emphasis allowed his company to evolve by changing offerings or getting rid of products entirely if needed. "In '84, the cucumber ice cream won a gold medal in the Great Indian Ice Cream Festival but it wasn't working as a product, because people didn't like the idea of having a vegetable in their ice cream. I realised it was like an art movie, it could get awards, but it wouldn't sell," he laughs.

While higher education eluded Kamath, business taught him invaluable lessons that are still relevant to aspiring entrepreneurs. "Never make the same mistake twice. Be prudent with property, accounting and legal matters. And most importantly, listen to your advisors," Kamath says.

Your Guide to Spicy Living
INDULGE
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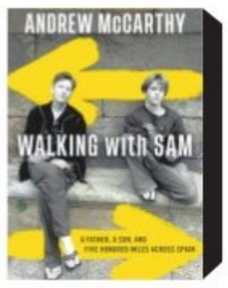
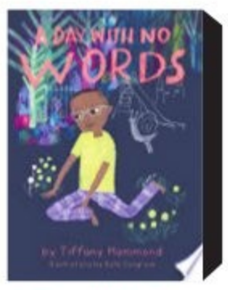
BOOK NOOK



Walking with Sam

By Andrew McCarthy

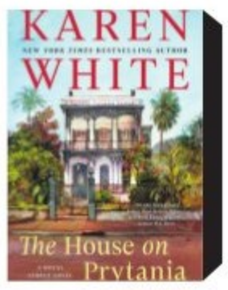
When Andrew McCarthy's eldest son began to take his first steps into adulthood he wanted to create more meaningful connection with Sam before he fled the nest.



A Day With No Words

By Tiffany Hammond

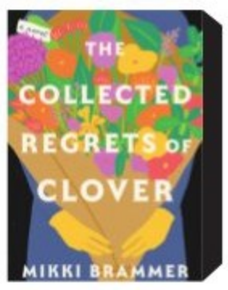
The book invites readers into the life of an Autism family who communicates just as the child does, without spoken language.



The House on Prytania

By Karen White

Nola Trenholm has spent enough time around people who are to know when ghosts are present, and there are definitely a few lingering in her new cottage.



The Collected Regrets of Clover

By Mikki Brammer

The book is a big-hearted and life-affirming debut about a death doula who, in caring for others, has forgotten how to live her own.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Over a cup of tea..

Chai date is for people who want to get to know others and have good conversations. Go, make some new friends.

WHEN: May 30
WHERE: Small World, ST Bed, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

LAUGHING OUT LOUD

Meet your local standup comedians who will be making jokes with their new and old material in front of a small group of audience. **WHEN:** May 29 **WHERE:** Glen BakeHouse, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Political Satire

Book-turned-play *Chora Puraana*, first written in 1987, is a comical satire on the contemporary political state of affairs, democracy, social justice and human connections.

WHEN: May 30, 7.30pm
WHERE: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Move Your Body

Try out a power-packed choreography workshop by Gagan Somaiah, who is known for House, Funk & Street dance styles.

WHEN: May 29
WHERE: Dhurii Academy of Arts, Domlur
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Dance Delight

Upadhye School of Dance is hosting Punyah Dance Festival, where you can watch Bharatanatyam performances.

WHEN: May 29
WHERE: Ravindra Kalakshetra, J C Road
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Croak Night

Sing along or go solo. Beat the Monday blues by singing your heart out at this karaoke night.

WHEN: May 29
WHERE: Marcopolo Cafe, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Yogic Start

Start your day with a good dose of yoga and positive thinking with Sripriya, who is a grandmaster of yoga and a prenatal-postnatal expert. **WHEN:** May 30, 7 am
WHERE: Lahe Lahe, HAL 2nd Stage
CALL: 98862 94444

CLASSIC TOUCH

Visitors take a close look at a selection of vintage cars, which were on display over the weekend, at Lulu Mall, Binnipete | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICK FIX

VANILLA SPONGE CAKE

Contributed by **Bipasha Valecha,** Pune

INGREDIENTS

- **Refined flour:** 125 g
- **Sugar:** 125 g
- **Baking powder:** 1 tsp
- **Butter:** 125 g
- **Eggs:** 2
- **Vanilla extract:** 1 tsp

METHOD

- Mix butter and sugar in a bowl until light and fluffy.
- In another bowl, whisk eggs with vanilla extract.
- Combine the two mixtures by adding flour and baking powder. Give it a proper mix.
- Grease a cake mould with butter, and lime it with butter paper.
- Pour in the mixture and bake at 180 degrees Celsius for 30-35 minutes.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

SETUBANDHA SARVANGASANA

(BRIDGE POSE VARIATION ELBOWS)

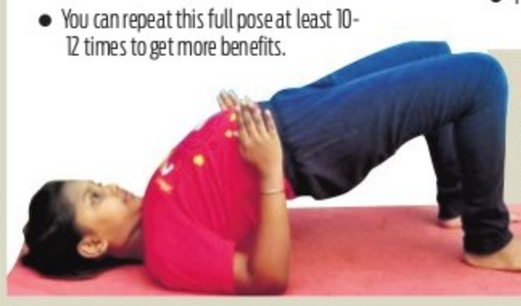
This variation is one of the basic backbend poses that prepares one for advanced backbend versions. It is a great way to remove toxic substances from the body and prevent diseases. It improves blood circulation and makes the spinal cord strong.

STEPS

- Lie on the ground flat on your back.
- Bend your knees and take your legs closer to your hips (the knee has to be at 90° of the spinal cord).
- Maintain a distance between your feet and hips on the ground. Distance from the pelvis should be 10 to 12 inches, and the knees and ankles of the feet should be in a straight line.
- Inhale, put the weight on your hands and slowly lift your hips up. Take the arms under your hips and knees.
- Now breathe in and lightly lift your lower back from the ground.
- The middle and the upper part of your back should also be raised above the ground.
- Then, gently turn your shoulder blades and try to touch your chest without folding your chin.
- Maintain the balance of your body weight on your shoulders, arms, and legs.
- Now, bend your elbows, keeping the palms straight, fingers facing the sky, hold this position to intensify the stretch and challenge your balance.
- You can breathe slowly and normally.
- Stay in this pose from 30 to 60 seconds. While remaining in this posture, slowly breathe out.
- You can repeat this full pose at least 10-12 times to get more benefits.

BENEFITS

- Helps to reduce back pain.
- Helps to strengthen muscles and spinal cord.
- Helps to relieve negative emotions.
- Helps get rid of anxiety, backache, fatigue, insomnia, and headache.
- Relaxes the brain and helps reduce stress and mild depression.
- Helps to get rid of the problem of thyroid.
- It is more helpful to improve the digestion system.
- Relieves the trouble in menstruation.
- Stimulates the abdominal organs, lungs, and thyroid.
- Removes symptoms of menopause and controls blood pressure.
- Useful for alleviating stress.
- Promotes inner calm and reduces the problem of obesity.
- Therapeutic treatment for asthma.



LIMITATIONS

Those who have severe pain in the knees, neck, back, shoulder and waist, avoid this. Pregnant women can practise under the advice and supervision of a yoga expert.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

SUBSCRIPTION

Sony LIV:	₹299/month
Apple TV:	₹99/ month
Disney+Hotstar:	₹299/ month
Netflix:	₹149/ month
Prime Video:	₹179/ month

REGIONAL

SOPPANA SUNDARI (Tamil)

When a simple middle-class girl's family wins a car in a raffle, chaos ensues as various parties claim ownership, forcing her to navigate a darkly comedic web of financial crisis and unexpected events.

Cast: Aishwarya Rajesh, Lakshmi Priyaa, Deepa Shankar

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

PIKU (Hindi)

A road trip to Kolkata brings Piku, an architect, closer to her ageing but nagging father Bhaskor Banerjee despite their disparate ideologies and fights over trivial issues.

Cast: Deepika Padukone, Irrfan Khan, Amitabh Bachchan

- **Watch on:** Sony LIV

FAMILY DRAMA (Telugu)

A dysfunctional family, a serial killer on the loose and when both the worlds meet, it topples many lives.

Cast: Teja Kasarapu, Pooja Kiran, Shruthi Meher

- **Watch on:** Sony LIV

NATHICHARAMI (Kannada)

A widow struggles with the dilemma of her own physical and emotional needs, and her desire to remain faithful to the memory of her husband.

Cast: Sruthi Hariharan, Sanchari Vijay, Sharanya

- **Watch on:** Netflix

PRANAYA VILASAM (Malayalam)

Sooraj, a popular student, and his father are die-hard romantics. But in their adventures, they both ignore Sooraj's mother Anu. Until one day, they realise the importance of Anu in their lives.

Cast: Arjun Ashokan, Abhina, Miya George

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

THIRUVIN KURAL (Tamil)

A man with hearing and speech disabilities is drawn into danger when a ruthless gang starts targeting his injured father at a hospital.

Cast: Arulnithi, Bharathiraja, Aathmika

- **Watch on:** Netflix

JI WIFE JI (Punjabi)

Revolves around unblessed, unhappy and helpless husbands who are overpowered by their wives.

Cast: Roshan Prince, Sakshi Magoo, Deepika Aggarwal

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

FOREIGN

SWEET TOOTH (English, series)

On a perilous adventure in a post-apocalyptic world, a boy who's half-human and half deer searches for a new beginning with a gruff protector.

Cast: Christian Convery, Nonso Anozie, Stefania LaVie Owen

- **Watch on:** Netflix

DEAD RINGERS (English, series)

Twin gynaecologists, Elliot and Beverly Mantle, perform ethically questionable procedures on infertile women.

Cast: Rachel Weisz, Britne Oldford, Poppy Liu

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

THE NIGHT HOUSE (English)

After the unexpected death of her husband, Beth is left alone in the lakeside home, where she learns about the secret behind her disturbing nightmares

Cast: Rebecca Hall, Sara Goldberg, Evan Jonigkeit

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

GREEK SALAD (French, series)

When their grandfather dies, Tom and Mia inherit a building in Athens. Tom, a young startup, finds out that Mia, who pretends to study in Erasmus, is in fact a rebel activist who lies to the whole family.

Cast: Aliocha Schneider, Megan Northam, Romain Duris

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

A RENEWED EQUATION

After dabbling with films and television, Sandalwood actor Sonu Gowda is returning to the stage and its spotlight

DESE GOWDA

IN the world of acting, a conventional career progression for an actor is often from theatre to television and films. For Sandalwood actor, **Sonu Gowda**, that progression has been in the inverse order. Having debuted with the film *Inthi Ninna Preethiya* in 2008 alongside actor Srinagara Kitty, Gowda has gone on to star in several successful features and has even ventured into television over the years. But this week, Gowda is taking to the stage, playing a key role in city-based dramatist Abhishek Iyengar's play *E=MC²*.

"Working in theatre is unlike what I usually do in films and television. It presents an opportunity for me to brush up my skills and try out different things," says Gowda. A science-fiction thriller that follows the mystery of a missing algorithm and its creator, the themes of *E=MC²* are quite unique in Kannada theatre. Playing one of the key roles in the play, Gowda says her character is that of a strong-minded woman who is 'meticulous and deliberate with everything she does'.

E=MC² primarily revolves around the search for a missing algorithm with potential to revolutionise aspects of the modern financial system. And many of the characters in the play have 'volatile energy' as Iyengar puts it. But Gowda's character is that of a composed person who is tasked with coordinating the search for the missing person.

"We needed someone who could balance out the mad energy on stage with a subtle but powerful performance. That's where Sonu's character, Madhuri, comes in. She serves as a bridge between the two parties involved in the search and is an expert negotiator," Iyengar adds.

A still from the play *E=MC²*

Having mostly worked with cameras throughout her career, Gowda anticipates the various opportunities that theatre presents. "With films and television, the moment the camera stops rolling, I become myself. But with theatre, you get to evolve your character and performance from one show to the other. While you get to do multiple takes with films and TV, if you get a new idea a day after the shoot, you don't get to do that. That's why I think most actors are often not satisfied with their performance in films," she shares, adding that the additional challenge of having to memorise long scripts in theatre has helped her work better on screen.

But given her relatively-short experience with the medium, Gowda – who is in her 30s – finds the potential for mistakes to be higher in theatre. "Every time I get on stage, it has been a new experience. I still haven't gotten over that nervous stage and I am prone to making minor mistakes. I always worry that I might mess up important lines," she says, adding, "At the same time, being on stage somehow pushes me into this flow where the lines come to me automatically and everything seems to work out fine."

(The play is being staged on May 31, 7.30pm, at Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar. Tickets on bookmyshow.com)

REDFALL: THE BUGS ARE FEATURES!

@quofles

(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

I stand before you today a master of stealth, my skills refined through days spent lurking in the shadows, creeping behind walls, replaying missions of Arkane Studio's "Dishonored" until I knew that I had tried every approach. With this, and 2022's nearly perfect "Deathloop", it felt like Arkane could do no wrong. So surely there is no chance that the newly released "Redfall" is a frustrating mess, is there? I'd bet my last healing portion on that.

I begin on the tiny landmass of Redfall — a tranquil strip of coastal land now infested with vampires and haunted by the omnipresent voice of a self-proclaimed "Hollow Man". The cooperative multiplayer style gameplay, a new development for Arkane, allows me and my friends to choose from up to four survivors, each with their own unique motivations and a specific set of skills. I pick Devinder Crousley — a very chipper and deluded cryptozoologist, hunting some non-existent cryptids.

The first mission starts with taking over an abandoned fire station and joining forces with a group of survivors. It gives a pretty good taste of what's to come — tussles with a vampire-worshipping cult of humans and staking some undead hearts. But the excitement of the adventure fizzles out. Even as my cryptozoologist counterpart searches in vain for his elusive cryptids, I don't have to look too far to find the fabled "bugs". The in-game AI malfunctions. The hordes of vampires and cult members don't see me. This is not for lack of trying. I do everything to provoke them. Jump around. Wave my gun. Explode some cars and fire hydrants around them. Shoot into the empty air. Even shoot at them. Nothing. No response, just a broken game. So, the joke is not on me, I didn't really need that healing potion after all! But this isn't the only problem with "Redfall". The game itself, has a limited campaign, which consists of around 10 different fetch quests. These are repetitive, involving riding vampires and brainwashed cult members from specific areas in the map. Completing missions provides experience points – which result in "skill" upgrades. Arkane has used skill trees in the past, allowing for potentially game changing choices all along the way. But despite retaining some familiar, famous skills from earlier games like 'teleportation', I can't help but wonder if there's any point of skills in Redfall at all. The game is far too small, and a little too repetitive for a complex skill tree to provide any significant advantages. I was not able to notice a difference in the enemies I encountered either — all locations and enemies could be confronted at any point, and I could technically have finished the entire game without any skill upgrades. In fact, the game gets so profoundly easy that I finished the last few missions in a little short of an hour. A personal record for me. I have almost never finished a game of this variety that fast. And that's coming from me, the master of stealth.

All of the inconsistencies and issues with the game led to this: I am now an unstoppable force, vampires cower at my very presence (not really, they didn't even know I was around).

I mow through populated vampire lairs, laughing and cackling loudly as the unsuspecting vampires scream in terror. Main missions now over, I run victory laps around Redfall, shooting my seemingly infinite ammo into the sky.

Nothing can stop me. I am drunk with power, and the master of Redfall. As I stopped to take a breath during my third victory lap, I have a change of heart. I take back everything I said about Redfall being a frustrating mess. After a long day of work, it was pleasant to work my way through the challenge-free missions.

In fact, it was actually entertaining. Redfall is pretty good, at least for now. Who knows how long it will take for the developers to realise and fix these problems? Maybe those updates will ruin it. Maybe it's best to grab it while it's still enjoyable.

PC ₹3,999 (Steam), free with the Xbox Game Pass

Everything about Naveen Richard is endearing, most of all his decision to be responsible for the content he creates!

ROMAL LAISRAM

THE first thing about him that disarms you almost immediately is his ability to put you at ease. Could it be his smile, or his endearing accent with a Malayalam leaning that only makes it more likeable or is it just his adorable persona? Comedian Naveen Richard stands apart from his standup performer fraternity simply because his content is relatable and absolutely clean. We weren't prepared for the laughter joyride we were about to witness at a recent performance by the popular comic. With a robust south Indian nuance and a palpable Bengaluru connection, Richard had us in splits. "The show is about a year old and I have done it four or five times, so this was largely for people who wanted to watch it but couldn't make it previously. This is probably also my last performance of this set," says Richard, an alumna of Christ University, who has lived in the city for many years.

Managing to bring in flavours from both his Tamil and Malayalam lineages, Richard tastefully pokes fun at many things that we south Indians take for granted. He also belligerently presents a view of India that is not Hindi-centric and while consciously othering the non-south Indian in most pieces, he also finds space for some self-deprecating humour that is sure to win over any native non-south Indian Hindi speaker. "I picked up my style in Coimbatore. I am from a generation that had limited access to content. I used to watch *Mr Bean* like everyone else and then went to boarding school in Ooty. I picked up Shakespeare and theatre and so you know, started using big words and with no TV in the hostel, I learned how to find a funny side to dull situations. I am from Coimbatore but my mother tongue is Malayalam. I am Tamil to a Tamilian and Malayali to a Malayali. To a north Indian, I am a Tamil-Malayali and to myself, I am a Bengalurean and proudly so," he adds.

Going from random anecdotes to brazen-yet-humorous takes on politics, culture and current affairs — it was refreshing to watch a standup comedian not resort to sexist, homophobic or transphobic jokes and yet keep his largely Gen-Z audience thoroughly entertained. "A lot of us comedians have that one moment in life when we wake up and realise that we are responsible for what we say," Richard tells us.

The show is done, half the audience clambers up to the stage desperate to take selfies with their star. We stand and patiently wait to do the same. Not because we want a picture, but rather because we'd like to thank Richard for making comedy clean again. "I found my style of comedy, when I discovered my faith again. I want to feel responsible for my content. As a comedian with freedom, I need to protect children too, they are watching things they should not and I do not want to be a channel for that. Whatever I perform should align with my beliefs," he concludes.

THE 'GOOD BOY' COMEDIAN

TALKING ART

Art that trash talks

We Indians are the unrivalled chieftains of waste recycling. We have been doing it for centuries, long before the words 'reprocessing', 'upcycling', 'waste management' and others became fashionable enough to throw around to proclaim your usefulness. Try cleaning out any cupboard in a typical Indian household; preferably one in which two or three generations have lived. The attempt would be nothing short of an archaeological excavation. Cartons tumbling out of any closet/loft/attic would include the most unlikely of discoveries. From old Ovaltine and biscuit tins (it wasn't cookies then), shopping bags from stores that don't have an address anymore and all such evidences of a life lived – we have them all safely tucked away in anticipation of a day when it would be needed again with a brand new purpose. Ingenuity runs in our blood, unaffected by class or caste distinctions. Saving our wastes is a national pastime! It is only natural then, that we become experts at reimagining what we can do with the waste we hoard. Art is one of them.

Discarded tyres piled up at bus depots, posing health hazards, is a common sight in most Indian cities. The Kolkata Tyre Park has turned these used tyres into furniture and swings for the park visitors as well as into art installations for the public to view.

The Bhubaneshwar Waste to Art Museum, houses around 30 art installations made by national and international artists with scrap metal. The Coimbatore Corporation installed sculptures made using e-waste, spare parts of abandoned vehicles and other such junk recycled from the city's landfills, as part of the Smart City beautification plan.

Besides these public art projects, there are several well-known artists who work with waste as their muse, an unusual choice indeed. Haribabu Natesan from Chennai quit his job of several years to pursue his dream of making art with junk. Dia Mehta Bhupal from Hyderabad makes art installations from old magazines, Manish Nai from Mumbai is known to recycle any waste item, even threads to make his art.

As a nation, we generate approximately 60 million tonnes of waste annually. Even a zillion conferences on the need to save Planet Earth will not change that. The least we can do is to find ways to recycle this vulgar amount of trash. Let art guide you to navigate those paths!

(Jitha Karthikeyan is an artist and curator, passionate about making art accessible to the larger public)

Ever heard of Nek Chand's *Rock Garden in Chandigarh*? Nek Chand, a government official, started making sculptures out of all kinds of discarded items, especially industrial waste. He built these sculptures in a forest buffer zone and managed to keep his secret safe until 1976, when he was discovered by the authorities. By then, he had created hundreds of sculptures on almost 12 acres and soon, with public support, it was declared a sculpture garden and is currently spread over 40 acres. The place also boasts of a Dolls Museum, showcasing 200 dolls made out of waste cloth by Chand.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mr. SWAROOP**, residing at No. 2, 5th Cross, Guptha Layout, Halasuru, Bengaluru – 560008. my name **Mr. SWAROOP** and **Mr. SWAROOP P. KUKKILLAYA** refers to me and to the same person, vide Affidavit dated 26.05.2023 sworn to before Notary Ranganatha Gowda, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Hema Nitin Jain (Old Name) W/o Nitin Jeevraj Jain aged about 49 years Residing at No.22/1, 3rd Floor, Jeev Shanti, Krishna Rao Sindiya Road, V V Puram, Bengaluru - 560004, Have changed my name to **HEMA JAIN (New Name)** vide affidavit dated 26.05.2023. And I sworn before Mamatha N.K Notary & Advocate Bengaluru, INDIA.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHREENIVAS** S/o Bhimsingh Rathod, Aged about 45 years, resident of Flat No 617, Mahaveer Cedar Apartment, AGB Layout, Near Sapthagiri Hospital, Chikkasandra, Bengaluru-560090, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **SHREENIVAS** to **SRINIVAS B RATHOD**, vide affidavit dated 26/05/2023 sworn before notary **B.K.R KRISHNAMURTHY**, Reg No1351, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Ranganayaki**, D/o Koothanda Kuppam Doraiswamy. R/a No.1775, 6th main, D Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010. I have Changed My Name from **Ranganayakamma Garudachar** to **RANGANAYAKI** Vide affidavit Date : 27/05/2023. Sworn before Notary : Devaraja .E.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Ajay Gautham Chand Jain** (old name) s/o Gautham Chand Khicha aged about 30 years residing at No.206, 2nd floor, Sumukha Residency, 7th cross, Kathriguppe main road, Near sairam residency Banashankari 3rd stage , Bengaluru 560085. Have changed my name to **AAJJAY KHICHAA** (new name) vide affidavit dt 27.05.2023. Sworn before K.C. Shashikala Advocate and notary Bengaluru INDIA.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Smt. Sudha, W/o. Mr. Krishna.A, aged about 38 years, R/at # 524, Huchamma Temple Street, Anjanappa Layout, Ramaswamy Palya, Bangalore-560033 have changed my son's name from Master. K.S. Buvan Kumar to Master. K.S. Bhuvan Kumar** vide affidavit dt: 22/05/2023 sworn before advocate and notary Y.R. Chandrasekar, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAVI KUMAR R, S/o Late Revanna, aged about 37 years, R/at No. 31B, 2nd Floor, Dsouza Layout, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore - 560085.
My son name is **"Devansh Adithya R"** but at the name of birth by mistake my son name has been mentioned as **"Chiransh R"** But We would like to show from here onwards my Son's name as **"Devansh Adithya .R"**
I have changed my son's name from **"DEVANSH ADITHYA .R"** Instead of **"CHIRANSH .R"** vide Affidavit Dated: **25/05/2023** sworn to before **G.Dayananda** Advocate & Notary at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I , **RUPA G** W/o. Late Venkatesh Reddy, residing at #20,1st Cross, 8th Main Road, SBM Colony , Msrit , Bangalore - 560054. My Name in Aadhar Card No. 3559 0589 4284 and Pan Card No. CUVPR8890J as RUPA G and in Passport No. F8948596 as RUPA . I state that **RUPA** and **RUPA G** both the names pertain to the One and same person. Vide Affidavit dated 25.05.2023 before Notary Chandrakala, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ASHA ABRAHAM**, W/o Abraham Selvam, Residing at No. 1576, 2nd Main, 2nd Cross, Sanjeevininagar, Sahakaranagar Post, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560 092, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ASHA V** to **ASHA ABRAHAM** vide affidavit dated 27.5.2023 sworn to before K.V. Nanjaiah, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MANPREET SINGH**, S/o. Shri Mohan Prasad Gupta and Smt. Manju Devi, aged about 22 years, Resident of Room No.6, Bhartiya City, Chokkanhalli, Bengaluru-560064, have changed my name from **Manish Kumar Gupta** to **MANPREET SINGH** and my Religion from Hinduism to Sikhism vide affidavit dated 21/4/2022, Sworn before B.S. Padma Prasad, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of Karnataka, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) SHAZIA BEGUM, Residing at # 32/1, 3rd Floor, 4th Cross, Shivaji Road, Shivaji Nagar, Bengaluru-560001, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) SHAZIA BEGUM** to **(NEW NAME) SHAZIYA BEGUM** vide affidavit dated 16/03/2023 sworn before Notary Sivakumara M.N., Bangalore.

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'FORTUNATE TO COLLABORATE WITH DHANANJAY IN JUST MY SECOND FILM'

...says Moksha Kushal, who feels lucky to have got a big break in her sophomore project, and for being the chosen one among the 200 actors who auditioned for the role in Param's directorial

Param

Dhananjay

Moksha Kushal

A SHARADHAA

MOKSHA Kushal is the latest talent in Sandalwood. The Coorgi native identifies herself as a true blue Bengalurean, and the model-turned-actor, who holds an engineering degree, has made a promising entry into the world of Kannada cinema. The newbie kickstarts her acting journey with Suni's *Modakavida Vathavarana,* which is gearing up for a release. Even before *the* release of her first film, she has already bagged her next big opportunity.

Moksha is set to star in Param's debut directorial, which he is also producing under the Jio Studios banner. The film stars Dhananjay in the lead role, and Moksha has participated in the first schedule, and is expected to resume her next schedule in June first week.

Hailing from a conventional background and excelling as a top performer in her class, Moksha has always indulged in various extracurricular activities. "After completing my engineering, my inclination towards the creative field grew stronger. I never found the 9-to-5 job appealing; I yearned for something that would keep me actively engaged. This eventually led me towards the glamorous side of the industry. I delved into modeling and spent two years working with noted model choreographer, Prasad Bidappa. However, the monotony of walking the ramp compelled me to switch my career to the world of cinema. After going through countless auditions, I find myself here, ready to face the arc lights," reveals the actor.

Although acting was never her childhood dream, Moksha does admit she carried herself like a star. "During college fests, I would often be recognised and draw considerable attention. This sudden limelight captivated me and eventually became an addiction, which led me to where I am today. I'm still a struggling actor. I harness my talents and seize every opportunity that comes my way," she confides.

While *Modakavida Vathavarana* casts her opposite a fellow newcomer, Moksha is elated to have landed a lead role opposite a star like Dhananjaya in her second film, and directed by Param. "Learning that I was chosen among over 200 actors for this role left me overwhelmed. It made me realise that fate and luck play a vital role in shaping one's journey. I consider myself fortunate and lucky. Currently, the film is already in production, with the current shoot taking place in Mysuru. I eagerly wait to commence my next set of scenes from June 2."

Although Moksha Kushal remains tight-lipped about her role, she assures that it is an exceptional character. "I portray an intriguing role in this film, and the story itself is truly brilliant. Working alongside one of the finest actors and a director who brings his own unique expertise, I am confident that the final output will be nothing short of amazing. This project itself marks a significant boost to my film career, and I am eagerly looking forward to embarking on this journey with flying colors," she says

MODEL-TURNED-ACTOR ROHIT TURNS LEAD WITH *RAKTAKSHA*

CE FEATURES

ROHIT, a model and theatre artiste, is raring to make his mark in the film industry. Starting with a negative role in the unreleased film, *AB Positive*, this budding actor is now set to take on the lead role in his next project, titled *Raktaksha*. Directed by Vasudeva SN, the film, which also marks Rohit's debut as a producer under the Sai Production banner, is gearing up for its release. The film is billed as a murder mystery infused with elements of crime and action. Recently, the title track of Raktaksha, sung by Vasishta Simha, written by Sujith Venkataramaiah, and composed by Dossmode, was released.

During a media interaction at the song release event, Rohit expressed his delight at fulfilling his childhood dream of becoming an artiste. Hailing from the humble town of Mudgal in Raichur, he aspires to make a significant impact in the world of cinema. Rohit also revealed that the film is inspired by true incidents and promises it will be a gripping thriller, incorporating intriguing concepts like a reverse screenplay.

Raktaksha features notable actors like Pramod Shetty, Roopa Rayappa and Archana Kottige. The film also showcases the talents of Gurudev Nagaraja, Vilas Kulkarni, and Shivamogga Ramanna, among others, in prominent roles.

A still from the film

Vasishta Simha

Rohit

> *The film is inspired by true incidents and promises it will be a gripping thriller, incorporating intriguing concepts like a reverse screenplay*
>
> Rohit, actor/producer

Team *Daredevil Musthafa* overwhelmed by response in State, set for overseas release

CE FEATURES

TEAM Daredevil Musthafa is in good spirits with the film receiving excellent response from the audience, along with celebrities showering accolades.

BASED on the short story by legendary writer Poornachandra Tejaswi, the film, which is into its second week, garnered appreciation from politicians Prathap Simha and Darshan Puttannaiah. Presented by Dhananjay under his Daali Pictures banner and distributed by KRG Studios, *Daredevil Musthafa* is performing well in approximately 40 centers, including Bengaluru, Mangalore, Shimoga, and Mysuru, among other districts. Meanwhile, the team is gearing up for the international release of *Daredevil Musthafa,* with screenings scheduled in the USA and Europe this week, followed by a release in different part of the world, including Australia, New Zealand, and Dubai, in the following week.

Daredevil Musthafa, a comedy-drama film that explores the lives of college students, particularly focusing on the challenges faced by Musthafa, the sole Muslim student in a Hindu college, has been met with positive reception. The movie portrays everyday tensions, and the quest for a sense of belonging in a diverse setting. It marks the debut of several talented artists, including Shishir Bykadi and Aditya Sree in the lead roles, alongside Prerna Gowda, Supreet Bharadwaj, Ashit, and Srivatsa. The film also features experienced actors such as MS Umesh, Mandya Ramesh, Nagabhushan, and Poorchandra Mysuru in pivotal roles.

Produced by ardent fans of Poornachandra Tejaswi under the Cinemamara banner, the film has cinematography by Rahul Roy, and music by Navneet Shyam.

A still from the film

Ram Charan's debut production titled *The India House*

CE FEATURES

IT was earlier announced that Ram Charan has collaborated with his friend Vikram Reddy, who is also associated with the UV Creations banner, to launch a new production house named V Mega Pictures.

On Sunday, Ram Charan's production banner V Mega Pictures and Abhishek Agarwal Arts announced that their debut production is titled The India House. The upcoming film stars Nikhil Siddhartha and Anupam Kher in the lead roles. The title announcement teaser was released on the occasion of Veer Sarvakar's 104th birthday.

Directed by debutant Ram Krishna Vamsi, *The India House* will have cinematography by Cameron Bryson. Details about the rest of the cast and technical crew are yet to be revealed by the makers.

Meanwhile, Nikhil Siddhartha was last seen in 18 Pages. While he awaits the release of *Spy,* he is filming for *Kartikeya 3*. Anupam Kher has a number of films in his pipeline, including *The Vaccine War, Emergency*, and *Metro In Dino*, among others.